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Security Council

Sixtieth year

Provisional

5229th meeting

Wednesday, 20 July 2005, 10.45 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Vassilakis	(Greece)
Members:	Algeria	Mr. Baali
	Argentina	Mr. Mayoral
	Benin	Mr. Babadoudou
	Brazil	Mr. Sardenberg
	China	Mr. Cheng Jingye
	Denmark	Ms. Løj
	France	Mr. Poirier
	Japan	Mr. Kitaoka
	Philippines	Mr. Baja
	Romania	Mr. Motoc
	Russian Federation	Mr. Konuzin
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Emyr Jones Parry
	United Republic of Tanzania	Mr. Manongi
	United States of America	Mr. Rostow

Agenda

Briefings by Chairman of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

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05-43130 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.55 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council

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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

The President: I should like to inform the Council that I have received letters from the representatives of Australia, Cuba, India, Israel, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Peru, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, in which they request to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite those representatives to participate in the discussion, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, the representatives of the aforementioned countries took the seats reserved for them at the side of the Council Chamber.

The President: In accordance with the understanding reached in the Council's prior consultations, I shall take it that the Security Council agrees to extend invitations under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure to Ambassador Ellen Margrethe Løj, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism; Ambassador César Mayoral, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities; and Ambassador Mihnea Ioan Motoc, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

It is so decided.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

I would like to draw the attention of the members of the Council to document S/2005/421, which contains the text of a letter dated 29 June 2005 from the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, transmitting the Committee's sixteenth 90-day work programme.

At this time, we will hear briefings by the Chairman of the 1373 Committee, the Chairman of the 1267 Committee and the Chairman of the 1540 Committee.

I now give the floor to Ambassador Ellen Margrethe Løj, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism.

Ms. Løj: In my capacity as Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC), I would like to brief the Security Council on the activities of the Committee over the past three months and to submit to the Security Council the Committee's sixteenth work programme, covering the period from 1 July to 30 September 2005.

During the first three months of my chairmanship of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, focus has been on the following. First, dialogue with States has continued to develop through visits to States and through intensified discussions with States about implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and reporting thereon. Secondly, we have strengthened our methodology for the identification of States' needs for technical assistance. Thirdly, we have embarked on a discussion on how to ensure clarity and transparency in promoting implementation of the provisions of resolution 1373 (2001) through the development of a set of so-called best practices. Finally, I should inform members that the fact that the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) is still not fully staffed and operational has continued to have an impact on the Committee's capacity to deliver

an ambitious work programme. However, we expect the Executive Directorate to be at full capacity before the end of the period covering the current work programme.

Before going into more detail, I should like to thank the Executive Director of CTED, Mr. Javier Rupérez, and his team, as well as the Secretariat staff, for the valuable support they have provided the CTC over the past three months.

As mandated by resolution 1535 (2004), the CTC, through its CTED, has conducted three more visits to States, with their consent. CTED visited Kenya in May, and both Albania and Thailand in June. I would like to thank the Governments of those visited States for their hospitality, cooperation and willingness to discuss with the delegation issues related to the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) in such an open manner.

The three visits certainly provided the Committee with a more thorough understanding of the situation in those countries, including steps already taken by those Governments to implement the resolution and their commitment to doing so. The Committee now has further insight into the difficulties States may face while seeking to ensure full implementation. I would like to stress that it is of high priority to ensure proper follow-up to those visits. To that end, the CTC is committed to ensuring that technical assistance needs identified during the visits are met.

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight that the purpose of those visits is to provide an opportunity to "engage in a detailed discussion to monitor implementation of resolution 1373 (2001)" (*resolution 1535 (2004), tenth preambular paragraph*). Deepening the CTC's relationship with States through a visit is considered carefully by the CTC with the State concerned, considering States that are already engaged in the fight against terrorism and are in the process of implementing resolution 1373 (2001) and where the Committee would like to offer further analysis and, if necessary, assistance to help the State further its implementation of the provisions of the resolution.

The visits have been conducted with the participation of representatives of relevant international and regional organizations, such as the International Civil Aviation Organization, Interpol, the World Customs Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Union and the Commonwealth Secretariat. Such cooperation has been essential in providing the necessary expertise in all the areas of the resolution and has been of great importance to the success of the visits. I would like to thank those organizations for providing members to the expert teams that went on those visits and express the hope of the Committee that such cooperation will only be further enhanced in the time to come.

The CTC regards those visits as an essential addition to its dialogue with States about implementation of the provisions of resolution 1373 (2001). It is the Committee's intention to continue those visits, with the consent of the States to be visited and to the extent the available resources allow.

Dialogue with States has also intensified on issues such as late submission of reports and needs for technical assistance. The Committee, including through its CTED, continues to provide general guidance on implementation. As of 30 June 2005, the Committee had received 601 reports and many States are about to submit their fifth report. Still, a number of States have difficulties submitting the reports in a timely manner. At the moment, 67 States are behind in their reporting to the Committee. Over the past three months, the Committee has made a special effort to discuss issues related to reporting with representatives of States late in submitting their reports to the Committee. I would like to thank the representatives of those States for their willingness to discuss, in such an open manner, whatever difficulties they are facing.

The Committee is aware that the problems pertain, to a great extent, to lack of capacity, as well as so-called reporting fatigue. In the months to come, the CTC will continue discussions with States about how the Committee can best help them in ensuring timely reporting to the Committee, as well as full implementation of the provisions of resolution 1373 (2001). In the meantime, I strongly encourage States to report to the CTC, since it is of the utmost importance that there be regular contact between the Committee and States. Also, the Committee will continue discussions with the other two Committees reporting today on how we can best address issues relating to reporting in a coordinated manner.

As I mentioned earlier, the Committee has continued its discussions on how to facilitate technical

assistance. In order to ensure a comprehensive approach to each State's implementation of the provisions of the resolution and identification of needs for technical assistance, the Committee has decided that it will take further steps to identify needs for assistance in the process of evaluating States' reports. As a result, States may, from now on, receive a letter from the Committee that will include advice on how to further implement the provisions and, as a part thereof, the Committee's suggestions regarding areas in which technical assistance might be sought. The Committee strongly encourages States that might benefit from assistance to request such assistance.

The Committee will continue its discussions on how to facilitate the meeting of requests, including by further developing cooperation with potential donors broadly. Therefore, the CTC also encourages potential donors to continue to update the Committee on assistance offers, as well as assistance provided, in order to match identified needs with potential donors.

Finally, the Committee has considered the need to provide clarity and transparency on what it takes to implement resolution 1373 (2001). In that regard, the Committee has discussed the usefulness of developing sets of best practices to provide guidance to States on implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). Over the next month, the Committee will continue that discussion on how best to provide the desired clarity and transparency through sets of best practices. The Committee welcomes the work already done in that field by international, regional and subregional organizations and encourages relevant organizations to continue to develop sets of best practices to provide guidance to their respective member States on how to implement the provisions of resolution 1373 (2001).

Before I conclude, I would like to say a few more words about the tasks that are ahead for the Committee. They are spelled out in greater detail in the sixteenth work programme of the Committee, which is before members in the annex to document S/2005/421.

Most important, the Committee is looking forward to a fully staffed and operational CTED working under the policy guidance of the Committee. Staff members have started to take up their new positions, and a key task during the next three months is to ensure the adjustment and training of the new CTED staff. An operational CTED will allow the Committee to catch up on the unfortunate backlog of reports from States that has been developing in the transitional period. That is a key priority for the Committee.

Moreover, the Committee will continue to strengthen its dialogue with States on issues related to the implementation of the provisions of resolution 1373 (2001), especially in order to ensure thorough identification of needs for technical assistance. In that regard, the Committee will also make a special effort to strengthen its cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations.

The CTC remains a crucial instrument of the international community in its fight against terrorism — an instrument based on dialogue and assistance to States. Its task remains vital and urgent. The support of Member States remains crucially important, and the Committee is grateful for the support it has received. We will continue to count on such support in the future.

The President: I thank Ambassador Løj for her briefing.

I now give the floor to Ambassador César Mayoral, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities.

Mr. Mayoral (*spoke in Spanish*): This is the briefing that it is my duty to present every 120 days in conformity with paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 1526 (2004). Sadly, it seems that, too often, when we brief the Council, we have to begin by lamenting the losses caused by new heinous acts of terrorism. Unfortunately, this time is no exception. The attacks perpetrated in London on 7 July were a new indication of the threats to peace and security caused by terrorist acts.

There can be no doubt that the threat posed by Al-Qaida is radically different from the threat it posed when this sanctions regime was first imposed. It is believed that Al-Qaida terrorism now comprises three separate but interlinked groups: first is the old leadership, whose names are known to everyone; second are the fighters who were trained in camps in Afghanistan and graduated as expert terrorists; and third is a new and growing generation of followers who, although they may never have left their countries of residence, have embraced the core elements of the

Al-Qaida message. Given that the Committee is devoting increasing attention to the third group, I wish to encourage the Council to make clear to Member States that the word "associated" must also cover such groups so that the sanctions regime can be adapted to the new threats.

The Council is currently considering a new draft resolution aimed at intensifying the sanctions measures. I believe that it provides the Council with an opportunity to strengthen a number of elements and to address some of the concerns expressed by Member States.

I now turn to the activities of the Committee and of its Analytical Support and Sanctions the Monitoring Team. The Committee has met 10 times since I last briefed the Council. Half of those meetings were formal. The Council will recall that on 10 January, the Committee heard a report by the United States delegation and that at the time, I encouraged other Member States to avail themselves of the same opportunity. I am now pleased to report that since then, we have heard very useful reports presented by the delegations of the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Australia. The Committee has often stressed the importance of such meetings. Once again, I would like to encourage States to take the opportunity to share national achievements and concerns related to the fight against Al-Qaida and the Taliban. The Committee also met with Mr. Gijs de Vries, European Union Counter-Terrorism Coordinator, who explained the European Union's competencies and activities in the area of counter-terrorism.

During the reporting period, I made my first visits to selected countries. I was accompanied by Minister Panga of Tanzania, First Counsellor Andreades of Greece and Counsellor Hafrad of Algeria. We had very useful and informative meetings in Germany, the Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey and with European Union institutions in Brussels. I was pleased to note that in those places there is a wish to contribute to the effective implementation of the sanctions measures and to address with useful candour certain concerns with respect to the quality of the Committee's list of individuals and entities associated with Al-Qaida and the Taliban and to due-process guarantees.

I should also like to report that the Monitoring Team has continued to provide essential support to the work of the Committee. Here, I wish to thank Mr. Richard Barrett and his Team for their highly professional work. The Team's third report is now being translated and should be available to all members early next month. The Committee will consider it in detail in the weeks to come. I believe that the report, which contains a number of useful clarifications, will be very valuable to all Security Council members and to the broader United Nations membership. The Team has also helped the Committee to prepare its assessment of the implementation of measures, which the Committee will submit to the Council.

Members of the Team recently travelled to, among other places, the Sudan and Afghanistan to assess the implementation of sanctions measures by those countries. The Team has also continued to coordinate its work with other relevant bodies, including the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate, in an exemplary manner.

One of the important recommendations in the Team's second report was to increase cooperation between the Committee and Interpol. As a direct result of this recommendation, I have sought the Secretary-General's assistance in formulating an agreement to complement the existing cooperation agreement with Interpol to broaden and deepen the cooperation. It is my understanding that the Secretariat and Interpol are now working on the development of such an agreement, which will be a very positive step forward.

As to the future activities of the Committee, I firmly believe that the new resolution to be adopted by the Security Council this month will provide the Committee with the new impetus to deal with some of the most pressing issues on the Committee's agenda. There are many issues that the Committee will have to deal with in the next six months, including a new visit by the Chairman to selected Member States, the analysis of the third report of the Monitoring Team and the updating of the Committee's guidelines.

I should like briefly to point to two aspects where, in my opinion, Member States and the Committee must strive for further improvement.

First, it has become clear that some Member States have encountered difficulties or need assistance in the implementation of the sanctions measures, particularly with regard to the assets freeze. For example, it emerges from the reports of some Member States that there is apparently still a need to present

sufficient evidence to judicial authorities as a condition of the freezing of assets. We wish to clarify that such systems are not in conformity with Member States' obligations under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. For this reason, I urge States to ensure that assets can be frozen as soon as the Committee adds the name of an individual or an entity to the Committee's list.

Secondly, many Member States have argued that the Committee should further improve procedures for listing and delisting names. The Committee will continue to address such concerns. During my visits to selected States, and through reports to the Committee, it has become very clear that more is expected from the Committee in terms of the quality of information used for identification. I urge Member States to continue to provide additional information regarding individuals already on the lists, as this will certainly improve the application of sanctions.

In recent months the Committee has also received a number of communications regarding the inclusion of certain individuals and entities on its list. This is a very positive development, and I wish to express here that the Committee highly appreciates it. The Committee is still considering some of these submissions and will again strongly urge Member States to submit further names.

I now come to our conclusions. There is, sadly, every chance that Al-Qaida will continue to menace the world for some time to come. The international community must firmly oppose this threat and maintain a system that puts pressure on Al-Qaida by creating an environment hostile to it through effective application implementation of sanctions on a global scale. In this regard, I expect the forthcoming resolution to provide the Committee with a strong mandate to pursue these goals, while at the same time ensuring that due process concerns are addressed in an appropriate manner.

The President: I now give the floor to Ambassador Mihnea Ioan Motoc, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

Mr. Motoc: I have the honour to brief, in turn, the Security Council on progress achieved by the 1540 Committee in its work since 26 April 2005 and to introduce the Committee's second programme of work, for the period 1 July to 30 September 2005.

I shall speak first of the examination of national reports. At the first joint briefing, which took place on 25 April 2005, I informed the Security Council that the 1540 Committee had entered the substantive stage of its work and had begun examining national reports with a view to monitoring States' implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). The Committee, with the support of its experts, has already examined more than 50 national reports, as indicated in the first programme of work. All information contained in the first national reports examined by the Committee has been summarized in the form of a matrix that reflects provisions of the resolution. Additional information identified by the Committee in the official public data provided by States to the United Nations, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and other international organizations on steps they have taken in the areas covered by resolution 1540 (2004) has also been included in the matrix.

On the basis of this examination, and for the purpose of completing its knowledge of the steps States have taken, or intend to take, in responding to the obligations set forth in resolution 1540 (2004), the Committee is reaching out to reporting States with a view to soliciting additional information or to seeking clarification in areas covered by their first reports. The letters requesting additional information and/or clarification have been addressed to the Missions in New York. In the spirit of transparency, the Committee decided to share the matrix with reporting States.

The Committee is determined to pursue the examination of first national reports in an accelerated manner. Our work is now supported by a group of eight experts, and I am confident that the goal of completing the examination of first-round country reports could be attained by October 2005. Based on additional information that we hope will be provided by States in response to the Committee's letters and matrices, the Committee will continue to monitor and facilitate the efforts undertaken by all States to implement resolution 1540 (2004).

Insofar as reporting is concerned, by April 2006 the Committee will have to provide sufficient information to enable the Security Council to assess the progress States have made in implementing the resolution. The Committee can properly fulfil its mandate if all States report to it, as the Council has called upon them to do. Without information the

Committee will not be able to present the Council a comprehensive picture regarding measures put in place or planned by all States to implement the provisions of the resolution.

As of today, 118 States have submitted reports to the Committee. We welcome the fact that the majority of United Nations Member States have presented information about their domestic non-proliferation provisions, including their contributions to international cooperation in this field. However, 74 Member States have yet to report.

I would like to take this opportunity to renew my call upon those that have not yet done so to submit their reports without delay. We recognize that some States may encounter administrative difficulties in reporting. Nevertheless, we would be grateful if they could so inform the Committee, which would facilitate assistance to them in complying with the reporting requirements.

Other States might consider that they have nothing to report, because they possess neither weapons of mass destruction nor the capacity to develop such weapons or related materials. However, there are other ways in which non-State actors might seek to exploit their territories, by using them for the transit of goods, for the financing of illegal activities or as a base to broker the sale of goods related to weapons of mass destruction in other countries.

Recent events have shown that no one is shielded from those threats. States should be aware that unless they meet their obligations in full by enacting and enforcing national, legal and regulatory measures and by committing themselves to international cooperation on non-proliferation, their territories could be exploited in the worst possible way.

We realize that fully implementing the provisions of resolution 1540 (2004) in many States is a long-term project, but the Committee is fully committed to supporting that work, which must start now. A full report to the Committee can kick-start the process of assistance. As Chairman of the 1540 Committee, I will continue to raise the issue of further reporting through the outreach activities that the Committee intends to conduct in the near future. We will continue to talk to all countries that have yet to report. The Committee is also considering the possibility of reaching out to Member States through international and regional organizations. Regional seminars and workshops aimed at raising awareness of the problem worldwide and facilitating further reporting are also envisaged. I am very encouraged that the issue of improving reporting performance and late submissions will be considered in a coordinated manner by our committees.

In considering national reports, the 1540 Committee has already identified both needs and offers of assistance. We are encouraged by the fact that many countries are already helping by providing expertise and advice to Member States lacking the knowledge, the experience or the resources to implement resolution 1540 (2004).

In addition, the offers of assistance contained in the first national reports were summarized and presented to all States. The Committee indicated the areas in which assistance could be provided by a specific country, as well as the way in which contacts for assistance could be established on a bilateral basis. The Committee will continue to develop its work in this area, including the possibility of acting as a clearing house on the issue of assistance. We stand ready to consider all requests from States seeking help in implementing resolution 1540 (2004) and to facilitate contacts with donor countries and organizations. As an additional measure, the Committee has appointed a coordinator among the experts, who will manage assistance-related issues with the support of the Department for Disarmament Affairs.

Full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by all States is a long-term objective that, obviously, goes beyond the current mandate of the Committee. It will require continuous efforts at the national, regional and international levels on capacity-building and assistance, as well as monitoring and measuring the progress made by States in implementing the resolution. I am confident that the Security Council will consider how best to ensure that the work of the Committee makes an enduring contribution to non-proliferation.

With respect to interaction with international organizations, the Committee has continued its interaction with the IAEA and the OPCW on ways in which those organizations can support our work and contribute to the process of implementing resolution 1540 (2004). As the process of examining national reports continues, the Committee will interact and cooperate as appropriate with the relevant

international, regional and subregional organizations in order to facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). Working relationships with those organizations are being developed as appropriate.

In the same vein, the 1540 Committee will maintain close cooperation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions Committee, as envisaged in resolution 1566 (2004) and in the 25 April 2005 statement by the President of the Security Council (S/PRST/2005/16). The Committee's experts will work closely with the experts of the other committees, making every effort to maximize synergies among the experts of all the committees.

Transparency will remain a hallmark of the work of the 1540 Committee. The Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen will reach out on a regular basis to United Nations Member States. That will include work with the United Nations media, including through joint briefings with the Chairs of the CTC and the Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee. The 1540 Committee will continue to update its dedicated website, as an additional source of information on issues related to resolution 1540 (2004). A separate entry on assistance will soon be added to that website.

The Committee will also continue its practice of informing organizations outside the United Nations about our work through attendance at international, regional and subregional meetings and conferences. I will make full use of those opportunities to address, in particular, the issues of further reporting and assistance. As I did last April, I now call on all Member States to designate contact points for resolution 1540 (2004) both in New York and in their capitals and to make direct contact with the Committee's members and its experts on matters related to that resolution.

On behalf of the Committee, I look forward to the cooperation of all States as the Committee goes forward with its work in the months ahead.

The President: I thank Ambassador Motoc for his briefing.

In accordance with the understanding reached among Council members, I wish to remind all speakers to limit their statements to no more than five minutes in order to enable the Council to carry out its work expeditiously. Delegations with lengthy statements are kindly requested to circulate the text in writing and to deliver a condensed version when speaking in the Chamber.

Mr. Babadoudou (Benin) (*spoke in French*): My delegation would like to thank Ambassador Løj of Denmark, Ambassador Mayoral of Argentina and Ambassador Motoc of Romania for their briefings to the Council on the activities of the committees whose work they have the heavy responsibility of conducting. I also express my great appreciation to the various teams of experts that provide technical support for the Committees' activities as they carry out their mandates.

Since the tragic events of 11 September 2001, terrorism has emerged as one of the major scourges of our time. Through its various manifestations, terrorism has demonstrated the scope of the threat it poses to international peace and security. Terrorism is a crime against humanity. It threatens the lives of innocent civilians. It exacerbates the divisions between civilizations and between religions. In doing so, it greatly undermines the fundamental values of today's world, in particular human dignity.

Today's public meeting is being held a short time after the attacks in London. We take this opportunity to reiterate our condolences to the families of the victims and to reaffirm our firm condemnation of the phenomenon.

The fight against terrorism requires the mobilization of all States. We must therefore continue to pool our resources and efforts to protect our populations from that threat. In that context, the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and its Executive Directorate, the 1267 Committee and the 1540 Committee provide a framework for coordination and a driving force for international cooperation aimed at enabling our States gradually to put in place and strengthen the appropriate legal, institutional and operational framework for the effective implementation of the measures set out in the relevant Security Council resolutions.

Let us recall that that these measures relate primarily to controlling flows of funds, the trans-border activities of groups or individuals associated with terrorist entities, and the flow of arms and other sensitive products, with the goal of cutting off financing of terrorist activities, inhibiting the movement of terrorists and denying them access to weapons.

It is extremely important that these measures be implemented consistently. With respect specifically to weapons of mass destruction, it is urgent, in order to prevent their acquisition by terrorists, to institute, for example, strict controls on the movement of dual-use chemical components and other sensitive materials needed for their development. In addition, all States must understand the need to do so and take appropriate measures in that respect. We encourage the 1540 Committee to undertake an outreach effort with respect to the resolution to raise the awareness of all States, in particular those that do not feel that they are affected by its provisions.

The 1267 Committee, for its part, must, in the exercise of its mandate, continue to enhance its working methods by defining clear rules and principles for managing the list of terrorist individuals and entities.

The entire machinery established by the United Nations to fight terrorism must continue its resolute efforts to assess, on an ongoing basis, the efforts undertaken by States in order to help them build their capacities to meet their international obligations and to increase the effectiveness of their actions in the fight against terrorism. Indeed, the arsenal for that fight must become fully functional and enable States to prevent terrorist acts.

To that end, my delegation firmly supports the holding of a constructive dialogue with Member States in order methodically to determine their technical assistance needs and to promote international cooperation so that they can receive the necessary assistance. In that connection, visits to States, with the involvement of regional organizations, are extremely useful, because they make it possible to enhance such a dialogue on the ground.

We also encourage increased cooperation among the various committees in the implementation of their quarterly work programmes as well as the sharing of information and experiences among them, given the significant contribution that such efforts can make to enhancing the consistency of United Nations action and to developing a set of best practices in the fight against terrorism.

My delegation advocates universal accession to the various conventions and protocols related to terrorism. Those States that have done so must take the appropriate measures to meet their international commitments in the fight against terrorism, including the submission of periodic reports.

In that regard, reflection must be undertaken on how to streamline the process of requesting States' reports so that a consolidated report can be produced relating to their obligations under the various Security Council resolutions on terrorism. We believe that this is an urgent task for the expert groups of the three Committees.

Above and beyond all of those actions, we believe, and will continue to say as much, that the international community must deal with and address racial inequality, injustice, underdevelopment and conflict, because such systemic dysfunctions contribute to violence and extremism. Solutions need to be found in order to deny terrorism its breeding grounds. In that respect, we welcome the recent decisions of the Group of 8 and the various measures undertaken within the framework of United Nations reform to enhance the effectiveness of the action of the international community in the fight against terrorism.

Mr. Motoc (Romania): I should like now to address the Council in my national capacity.

First, Romania fully supports the European Union statement, to be delivered later by our colleague, Sir Emyr Jones Parry. In addition, I wish to make the following specific brief comments.

Romania welcomes the emerging practice whereby the Council hears regular briefings by its three counter-terrorism Committees. As the Council is thus resolutely pursuing, in a synergetic manner, its endeavours against terrorism, the three Committees and their Chairpersons are increasingly reaching out to each other, as set out in resolution 1566 (2004). This is a good opportunity for me to commend not only the dedicated work of my Danish and Argentine peers, who are presiding over the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999), respectively, but also the friendly and collegiate easiness with which we can share at all times our own experiences and evaluations, and envisage ways to further strengthen Security Council action in the area of counter-terrorism and non-proliferation.

Recent events have reminded us that terrorism is alive and well and that no one is safe from its ugly spectre; now more than ever we have to ensure that

terrorists are denied access to weapons of mass destruction and related materials. The fact that there seems to be increasing interaction among terrorists is a solid additional reason for us to increasingly join forces and to pool all of the resources that those who support freedom and safety for everyone are able to muster.

Action at the global level, including that of the three subsidiary bodies of the Security Council — the "borderless committees" — is extremely valuable in laying down the broad outlines of a universal shield against terrorism. However, this requires, first and foremost, committed efforts on the part of each State. Every Member of the United Nations should be supported in developing at least minimal defence capacities and adequate response capabilities in the face of terrorist threats. The protection both of States and individuals is, ultimately, a national function and responsibility.

Many States require, for what is assuredly the long haul, technical assistance for capacity-building in this area involving significant changes in domestic threat perception, security strategies, legislation and enforcement. We must work relentlessly so that the Security Council can improve its capacity to facilitate such assistance and, where appropriate, develop its own set of tools in this field. Many valuable ideas along those lines were recently put forward at the annual informal retreat of members of the Security Council with the Secretary-General.

My delegation supports a continuing review of the performance of the subsidiary bodies established by the Council to address the scourge of terrorism, as well as an early process of reflection on how the respective regimes put in place in recent years could be further improved and consolidated, in the light not only of lessons learned but of the continuous escalation of terrorist activities around the world.

Romania hopes that renewed political guidance in this field will be given at the highest levels by our leaders when they gather in New York in September. In that regard, we welcome the recent proposals made by Norway aimed at providing more substantial content with respect to the relevant paragraphs of the draft outcome document for the summit. Romania, along with Member States from all regions of the globe, fully supports Oslo's bold and timely initiative.

The anti-terrorism effort must be a comprehensive, system-wide undertaking on the part of the United Nations system as a whole. It cannot be fully sustained only by action taken at the Security Council level. The recent measures taken by the Secretary-General to set up a counter-terrorism interdepartmental task force within the Secretariat sets a good example in terms of fostering greater synergy and coordination among the many valuable contributions each sector is making in the global fight against the ominous threats of terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Let me take this opportunity to commend the various branches of the Secretariat, in particular those within the Department of Political Affairs and the Department for Disarmament Affairs, that are providing valuable support to the work of the three Committees. We hope that the Secretariat will continue its valuable efforts to support work in the field of anti-terrorism with the sense of urgency and priority that this threat is constantly bringing home to our constituencies.

The groups of experts that are assisting the three Committees in their activities are doing a fine job, and this is a good occasion for us to commend them for their professionalism and dedication to the cause. National and global anti-terrorism preparedness cannot substitute for action at the regional and subregional levels. The Security Council itself and, in particular, its anti-terrorism community will have a good opportunity, on the occasion of the upcoming high-level meeting of the Secretary-General with heads of regional partner organizations, to pass on a strong message on the need for mutual engagement against global terrorism and the proliferation of WMDs.

Beyond their differing mandates, the three committees share common concerns, challenges and strengths. It is therefore necessary to ensure that their work is guided towards ensuring a coherent effort by the Council and is translated into a joint pool of expertise and knowledge. Establishment of a unified database would help the committees accomplish their monitoring mandates, and it would also help Member States to pursue effectively the implementation of Security Council resolutions while avoiding duplication and overlap. It could also help address the issue of reporting fatigue, which has been raised for some time in our debates.

Transparency has to remain a hallmark of our work. But it should work both ways. The Security Council and its committees have to inform the general membership regularly on progress achieved and on shortcomings identified in their work. For their part, Member States should provide the Security Council with comprehensive information and feedback on their implementation efforts. The committees cannot perform their mandates properly if national reporting requirements are not adequately met. Without information, the Council cannot assess what has been done so far in terms of implementation and what additional measures are needed to improve our common defences against terrorism.

In a final reference to the work I am directly responsible for, let me say that the figure 15-40 is a tennis score that indicates a situation on the edge for the side that is serving. The international community is now facing a similarly worrying situation in the face of increasing terrorism and greater possibilities for the illegitimate proliferation of WMDs. It has therefore to serve hard and to serve effectively in order to take the game.

Mr. Cheng Jingye (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): The Chinese delegation thanks Ambassadors Løj, Mayoral and Motoc for their briefings on the work of their respective committees and on their plans for the next phase of their activities. We thank them for their great efforts to facilitate the work of the three committees. Let me also commend the new Danish chairmanship of the Counter-Terrorism Committee for the great deal of fine work it has done.

We take this opportunity strongly to condemn the terrorist attacks that recently took place in London. Our condolences go to the victims and their families. That incident shows once again that much remains to be done in the fight against international terrorism.

I shall now make some remarks on the work of the three committees. As subsidiary bodies of the Security Council, the 1267 Committee, the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the 1540 Committee play a unique and important role in the global fight against terrorism. We continue to urge the committees to strengthen their coordination and cooperation in the gathering and sharing of information. Each of the committees' monitoring groups, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the various groups of experts should have its own focus based on its particular mandate and purview. At the same time, horizontal exchanges should be enhanced in the interest of efficiency and avoiding duplication. The committees should also coordinate their activities with respect to the review of country reports and should learn from each others' successful experiences. The three committees should continue to strengthen their dialogue and cooperation with relevant international and regional organizations and with institutions within the United Nations family in order to enhance cooperation in the global fight against terrorism.

China attaches great importance to the 1267 Committee because of its central role in countering Al-Qaida, the Taliban and associated individuals and entities. Consultations on and the adoption of a new resolution will be important for the work of the Committee in the near future. We hope that the resolution will consolidate the consensus recently forged among all parties on improving the quality of the comprehensive list, enhancing sanctions measures and encouraging more Members to submit lists.

China looks forward to the full functioning of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) Executive Directorate. We hope that, with the support of a highly efficient and fully staffed Directorate with its work proceeding along the proper lines, the Committee will make additional achievements. On the basis of the relevant Security Council resolutions, China will continue to participate actively in the CTC's discussions on the formulation of best practices with respect to financing the fight against terrorism, with a view to reaching consensus and helping Member States in their implementation of the Council's resolutions.

China is pleased to note that the work of the 1540 Committee is proceeding smoothly. We believe that the Committee's priority for the next phase of its work should be to continue its serious and objective consideration of country reports and to urge countries that have not yet submitted reports to do so as soon as possible. The Committee should also provide countries with the assistance they need with respect to the implementation of Council resolutions.

China stands resolutely against terrorism in all its forms. We will work actively with all other countries and will be highly vigilant at all times. We will enhance our anti-terrorism cooperation and will continue to make unremitting efforts to eradicate terrorism. We will also continue to participate actively

in the work of the three committees and will work with all parties concerned to facilitate the complete and effective implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions.

Sir Emyr Jones Parry (United Kingdom): I have the honour also to speak on behalf of the European Union (EU). The acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania, the candidate countries Turkey and Croatia, the countries of the Stabilization and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia and Montenegro, the members of the European Economic Area Iceland and Norway, as well as Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, also align themselves with this statement.

I would like to thank the three committee Chairpersons for their briefings.

Each time the Council meets to hear the briefings of the Chairs of these committees, we say that the scourge of terrorism is still with us. That is not a platitude; it is a grim reality. Recent events in the United Kingdom, in Turkey and across the Middle East are a tragic reminder of the ongoing security challenges being faced around the world. This is an issue that affects us all. Our condemnation of these attacks has been unequivocal, and our message has been clear: terrorists who seek to use violence to impose their views will not succeed.

The European Union will continue to support the United Nations in its counter-terrorism efforts. In the context of the upcoming September summit, the EU attaches importance to including strong language in the outcome document which condemns terrorism. We remain fully committed to the implementation of the EU Action Plan on Combating Terrorism. Moreover, for our part, the EU is looking actively at this counter-terrorism framework to establish if and where additional measures are necessary. We intend to complete that review by December 2005.

Turning to the work of the 1267 Committee, we appreciate the visits Ambassador Mayoral has undertaken in his capacity as Chair of the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). EU officials were particularly pleased to meet with the Ambassador and his delegation during their recent visit to Brussels. Members of the EU, in this case the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, volunteered to meet with the Committee to discuss their respective national implementation of measures under resolution 1267 (1999). The EU's anti-terrorism coordinator, Mr. Gijs de Vries, also briefed the 1267 Committee and the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) on the work being undertaken against terrorism by the European Union.

The EU would also like to commend the work of the 1267 Committee's Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team. We hope to receive its third report imminently and we look forward to the Team's mandate being extended in the forthcoming new draft resolution. In the context of that draft resolution, the EU would like to emphasize its and other States' well-known position on the importance of respect for human rights in all counter-terrorism policies. A greater degree of transparency would be welcome, as would the provision of clearer guidance on listing, de-listing and humanitarian exemptions.

With regard to the Counter-Terrorism Committee, the Union remains fully committed to the obligations set out under resolution 1373 (2001) and continues to work to ensure that they are fully implemented. We were particularly pleased to be able to participate in the recent visits of the CTC Executive Directorate to Albania, Kenya and Morocco. We look forward to building on that cooperation. The arrival of additional experts for the Directorate is a positive step. We welcome the work that the Directorate is already doing and we look forward to seeing the Directorate as a whole becoming fully operational as soon as possible.

Turning to the 1540 Committee, the arrival of additional experts to work with the Committee is welcome news. We are pleased to see from the work programme that all of the first national reports from countries will be examined in the period covered by the work programme. While we are pleased to note that so many Member States have now submitted their first reports to the 1540 Committee, we urge the remaining States that have not done so to do likewise. The failure to supply reports will only serve to undermine the Committee's efforts.

The European Union will play a full role in the area of technical assistance in the context of all three committees. The EU will reinforce our work with priority third countries, through increasing individual collective commitments to technical assistance and capacity-building, and we will endeavour to support

them, including in the area of countering radicalization and terrorist financing.

The EU welcomes the ongoing cooperation among the three committees and their experts. We very much want to see that continue.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate the European Union's full support for the Secretary-General's proposals to establish a comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy for the United Nations. We therefore welcome the decision by the Commission on Human Rights to appoint a special rapporteur to provide guidance and advice to States on ensuring that counter-terrorism efforts are in line with international human rights law. We hope that decision will be ratified by the Economic and Social Council in the coming days.

The Union welcomes the agreement reached in the General Assembly on 13 April 2005 on the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (General Assembly resolution 59/290). We call on all Members of the United Nations to sign the Convention during the summit to be held in September. We attach great and particular importance to the early conclusion of a comprehensive convention on international terrorism. We will work towards the goal of its adoption during the sixtieth session of the General Assembly.

Mr. Kitaoka (Japan): I would like to welcome the Chairpersons of the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions Committee, the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the 1540 Committee, as well as to express my appreciation for their briefings.

First of all, my delegation would like to express its sincere condolences to the families of the victims of the simultaneous terrorist bombings that took place in London on 7 July. We also express our hope for the early recovery of those who suffered injuries. As in the case of the Madrid train bombings and the sarin gas attacks on the Tokyo subway network, innocent lives were taken by the targeting of mass transit systems for terror attacks, which is surely the most reprehensible act imaginable.

As is evident from the London terrorist bombings, terrorism continues to pose an immediate threat to all of us, as does the risk of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery falling into terrorist hands. The Security Council has been working in earnest to cope with such threats. Following the Council's meeting on this subject in April (see S/PV.5168), it is extremely meaningful that the Chairpersons of the three Committees have today provided clear explanations of the work done by their respective committees and experts and have described the programmes of the Security Council as a whole that are devoted to the common task of fighting terrorism. Deepening the cooperation among those committees will ensure the development of an effective counter-terrorism policy.

I would like to emphasize four points that may help to further advance the work of the three committees.

First, it has become clear once again from the London terrorist bombings that it is of the utmost importance to urgently establish preventive measures to counter terrorism. Enhancing information-sharing and cooperation is one such measure. In addition to bilateral arrangements, it is important that the Security Council encourage Member States to utilize the information and experience accumulated by bodies such as the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol), the International Civil Aviation Organization and the Financial Action Task Force. Such efforts will enable States to deny entry to terrorists by sharing information on lost or stolen passports, as well as to suppress terrorist financing.

Secondly, it is of course also crucial to build the capacity of Member States in this regard. The CTC has finished its first round of country visits, which began in March this year. Japan regards such visits as useful in building the capacity of the States visited. My Government expects that the CTC will encourage the efforts of the States visited and will identify the areas where assistance from the international community is needed, thereby facilitating the actual provision of assistance and effectively achieving the intended objectives. In that connection, we will closely observe the progress made by the end of this year. Information regarding the assistance needs of Member States provided to the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions Committee and the 1540 Committee must be shared with the CTC. Japan will continue to provide bilateral assistance for capacity-building.

Thirdly, in order to prevent the proliferation of terrorists and terrorist acts, improving and strengthening sanctions measures continues to be

necessary. In that connection, as a result of the discussion currently taking place with regard to the new draft resolution on the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions Committee, my Government expects that we will soon be able to decide on ways to improve and strengthen sanction measures — for example, by establishing clearer procedures so that the Committee's consolidated list will be easier for Member States to use, strengthening cooperation between the Committee and Interpol and setting up a system to effectively implement asset-freezing measures. In that connection, Japan appreciates the reports prepared by the 1267 Committee's Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team. We are certain that, in conjunction with today's discussion, the reports will contribute greatly to improving and strengthening sanctions measures.

Fourthly, in the fight against terrorism, the full cooperation of Member States in the efforts of the United Nations is, after all, indispensable. As underscored on various other occasions, Japan would like to urge Member States to join and implement the 12 counter-terrorism-related international conventions and protocols as a matter of urgency and to sign the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism in its early stage. At the same time, it is essential for the international community to clearly state that the targeting and deliberate killing of civilians and non-combatants cannot be justified or legitimized by any cause or grievance, and to cooperate in concluding the negotiation of the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism by June 2006.

Although it takes time and is a difficult task to prepare domestic legislation and measures to implement resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004) and other relevant resolutions, the sound way to counter terrorism is to continue to make steady progress in such preparations. The Security Council will continue to strive to make provision for an effective mechanism for counter-terrorism policy and to ensure that necessary assistance be provided to those Member States requiring and requesting it. To facilitate that, cooperation, such as the submission of reports without delay and the provision of information to each Committee, is essential.

No State, whether developed or developing, is exempt from the threat of terrorism. Every State is constantly studying ways to enable its people to live in a safe world, and the United Nations is at the forefront of gathering and sharing the accumulated knowledge and experience of Member States in that regard.

Japan supports Secretary-General Annan's recommendation to implement a comprehensive strategy for counter-terrorism. My Government expects that all heads of State will accept the Secretary-General's recommendation at the summit meeting in September. In addition, in order to further strengthen the actions taken by the Security Council, my Government will continue to extend its full cooperation to the work of the three Committees.

Mr. Sardenberg (Brazil): This is our first public meeting on terrorism after the tragic events in London reminded us once again of that scourge, as well as of the urgency and necessity of redoubling efforts to combat it.

Within the framework of the reform of the United Nations, we now have the opportunity to reach an agreement on a definition of terrorism and to foster a coordinated, comprehensive and integrated international response to that threat. We welcome the suggestions presented by the Secretary-General and consider them to be a good basis for a larger discussion about that issue.

A comprehensive anti-terrorism strategy should also tackle, in a proper manner, the root causes of terrorism as a most appropriate way of reducing the temptations to resort to that form of violence. Among possible techniques, such a strategy might involve preventive diplomacy, crisis management and the promotion of social and economic development. It is well known that situations linked to political, cultural and social oppression foster an environment that facilitates the development of extremism.

I should like to add our voice to the Secretary-General's call in inviting United Nations Member States to make a special effort to try to conclude the needed convention on terrorism as soon as possible. That convention should take into account the observance of international law, the rule of law and due process. We consider that the ideas put forward by the High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change are a useful starting point for that process. Brazil believes that such an umbrella convention should be based on a clear and agreed definition of terrorism.

We thank Ambassador Ellen Løj for her substantive briefing and for her effective and dynamic conduct of the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC). I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED), Mr. Javier Rupérez, and his team. We also recognize that Ambassador Rupérez's office is now understaffed, but we hope that the problem will be remedied in the near future.

Brazil supports the current reform of the CTED and expects that it will become fully operational as soon as possible in order to carry out its ambitious work programme under the policy guidance of the plenary of the CTC. I take this opportunity to reiterate the need to allow equitable representation of all regions and legal traditions within its secretariat. It is necessary that the CTED strengthen its capacity in order to better facilitate the provision of technical assistance to all interested States. Brazil strongly encourages States that might benefit from such cooperation to request assistance. The CTC should be a policy-guidance organ — and effectively it is — and a competent facilitator of assistance to Member States, which is to be obtained through an increasing dialogue with States and interested international partners within existing international law.

As mandated by resolution 1535 (2004), Brazil hopes that the visits to States, with their consent, will provide the CTC with a more thorough understanding of the situation in those countries, including further insight into the difficulties States may face in implementing the resolution, as was mentioned by Ambassador Løj this morning. It is essential that a proper follow-up mechanism to those visits be put into place so as to ensure that technical assistance and other needs identified during the visits are duly taken into account.

My delegation thanks Ambassador César Mayoral for his briefing on the activities of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). We share his perceptions on the recent episodes of terrorism and on their probable impact on the work of the 1267 Committee. We are pleased by the good results of his first visit to selected States, as mandated by resolution 1526 (2004). The views expressed by the States on the quality of the Committee's list of individuals and entities associated with Al-Qaida and/or the Taliban, as well as on the need to improve listing and delisting procedures, can help the future work of the Committee. Work on improving listing, delisting and exemption procedures must be undertaken, as proposed by Ambassador Mayoral. The enhancement of such procedures will encourage reluctant States to submit names for the lists.

The ongoing negotiations on a new resolution, pursuant to paragraph 3 of resolution 1526 (2004), offer a privileged opportunity to improve the work of the Committee and to focus on some of its most important tasks. The establishment of a definition of the term "associated with Osama bin Laden, Al-Qaida and the Taliban" will certainly help to refine the existing list of individuals and entities. In tailoring that definition, we should be able to balance the need to make it inclusive with the need to respect individual rights and prevent errors. When dealing with the issue of reporting to the Committee by States, we have to guarantee that the format and periodicity adopted will not make the procedure excessively burdensome for Members that lack resources.

I also thank Ambassador Mihnea Motoc for his briefing on the activities of the 1540 Committee. Based on Member States' positive responses, the 1540 Committee has been able to make steadfast progress in the examination of the relevant national reports. We are pleased to see that the consideration of the whole first round of national reports is likely to be concluded shortly and that the Committee will be in a position to provide a comprehensive report to the Council in 2006.

My delegation joins the Chairman's calls to encourage Member States that have not yet submitted their reports to do so. I trust that the Committee is willing to consider in full all requests for technical assistance in the preparation of the reports or in implementing the provisions of the resolution. Measures to strengthen the Committee's capacity to react to those requests and to facilitate assistance are, I believe, under way.

For Brazil, the very existence of weapons of mass destruction in the hands either of non-State actors or of States themselves is a matter of grave concern. As we continue to call for complete, verifiable and irreversible disarmament of States that possess such arms, we believe that the threat posed by terrorists having access to them is also important and requires appropriate action. These issues seem to be inextricably linked.

Brazil believes that the General Assembly could benefit from the work accomplished by the 1540 Committee if there is need to identify common standards and best practices. My delegation was pleased to join the consensus in the Assembly in April when it adopted the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, which addresses the unlawful possession or use of nuclear devices or materials by non-State actors. That clearly showed the resolve of the United Nations to act on those matters and demonstrates that space for debate and compromise is available. My delegation would be ready to support consideration by the General Assembly of common lines of action aimed at preventing terrorists from gaining access to weapons of mass destruction. That would no doubt add unquestionable efficacy to our approach to the threats in the same spirit that the 12 conventions have equipped us to respond to international terrorism in all its aspects.

Ms. Løj (Denmark): This statement is made in my national capacity. Before proceeding, I wish to fully associate Denmark with the statement made by the United Kingdom.

The Al-Qaida/Taliban sanctions regime is as important as ever in the international fight against terrorism. The 1267 Committee, with the support of its Monitoring Team, endeavours to ensure that the sanctions remain up to date, relevant and adequate to counter the constantly changing threat from Al-Qaida, the Taliban and their associates.

It is a welcome development that the Committee is receiving an increasing number of names to be added to its consolidated list. At the same time, several countries have voiced concern that the listing and delisting procedures do not live up to the principles of due process. Some countries have even stated that they will not be able to propose names for inclusion on the Committee's list until those concerns have been addressed.

Whether the lack of due process is real or not, it is crucial that the concerns be addressed. It must be avoided that a number of countries perceive Security Council sanctions to be less than firmly founded on the principles of due process. The issue demands the immediate attention of all members of the Security Council.

In our efforts to combat international terrorism, it is imperative to strike the right balance between preventive and swift action against terrorists on the one hand, and adequate safeguards for the individual — and not least for those unjustly targeted — on the other. It is also very important that our efforts are carried out in full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

At the same time we must, of course, maintain that it is the Security Council that takes any decisions on listing and delisting. In our view, the Council should therefore focus on improving the Committee's delisting procedures. That would enhance the credibility of the sanctions regime, and it would increase the regime's effectiveness by providing additional safeguards so as to avoid keeping on the lists people who do not belong there. Furthermore, improving the delisting procedures will not in any way weaken the effectiveness of preventive actions against terrorists. Listed persons or groups will remain on the list and will therefore be subject to the preventive actions until the Committee decides otherwise.

A way forward in this respect could be to establish a review mechanism that would consider individual petitions for delisting from individuals and entities affected. The mechanism would be authorized to request unclassified information from the Committee, which would keep the mechanism informed of its activities on a regular basis. After having considered a complaint, the review mechanism would submit a recommendation to the Committee. The Committee would endorse or dismiss the recommendation, thus keeping decision-making within the realm of the Security Council. This mechanism would also act as a filter in cases that are deemed unfounded and consequently do not merit consideration in the Committee. Denmark stands ready to discuss with Council colleagues this or alternative ways forward.

It is against this background that Denmark is participating actively in the ongoing negotiations of a strengthened 1267 sanctions regime. We thank the United States for a very good draft resolution and for the many innovative and constructive ideas contained in it. Denmark supports almost all of them wholeheartedly. It is, however, of key importance that the resolution also contain very clear language on the Security Council's intention to address the increasing due process concerns.

Before concluding, I would like to express Denmark's firm support for and confidence in the work of the 1540 Committee, as just described by its Chairman. Thanks to his leadership and the support of its experts, that Committee is on a solid course towards fulfilling its mandate. Much remains to be done, however, and it is of utmost importance that all Member States meet their reporting requirements.

The work of the 1540 Committee is a key element in our common endeavour to prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction, including to terrorists and other non-State actors. As we all know, this challenge remains as urgent as ever.

Mr. Manongi (United Republic of Tanzania): We wish to express our appreciation to you, Mr. President, for convening this joint briefing. We thank the Chairpersons of the Al-Qaida/Taliban sanctions committee, the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the 1540 Committee for their enlightening presentations on their work.

Permit me to reiterate our condemnation of the recent heinous terrorist attacks in the city of London. As we condemn those cowardly acts, we wish to stress the importance of these joint public briefings in increasing the awareness of, and resolve to address, the enduring threat to our collective security.

With regard to the mandates of the three committees, our delegation wishes to urge them to cooperate and to coordinate their activities for optimal results of their work. That could include sharing of information prior to and after a visit to a Member State, establishing a common data base, identifying technical-assistance requirements of States, and identifying donors willing to offer such assistance to Member States in need. It is also imperative that the three committees study jointly and carefully the root causes of the perennial problems of non-reporting and of reporting fatigue. What is often presumed to indicate lack of commitment happens to be lack of capacity.

Ambassador Mayoral has worked relentlessly to raise the awareness of Member States concerning the changes in the modus operandi of Al-Qaida networks and to address some of the concerns of Member States. We commend him for that. At present, the Council is considering a new draft resolution to augment the existing sanctions mechanisms. Our delegation is optimistic that it will present the Council with an excellent opportunity to address some of the persistent concerns of Member States, such as the need for due process and transparency in the listing and delisting procedures. It is pleasing to note that four States have appeared before the 1267 Committee for in-depth discussions on the implementation of the sanctions regime. We believe that such interactions are beneficial both to Member States and to the Committee.

Allow me to commend Ambassador Løj and the other members of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Committee's Executive Directorate for making remarkable progress in the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). We call for more expeditious consideration of national reports to make it possible to identify and meet in a timely manner the technical assistance requirements of States.

We wish to express once again our approval of the best practices related to combating the financing of terrorism that have been developed by the Financial Action Task Force. It is our hope that Member States will utilize the Task Force's special recommendations on terrorist financing to deal effectively with unlawful financial activities.

Our delegation cannot even contemplate the possibility of terrorists acquiring the wherewithal to carry out a nuclear, biological or chemical attack, owing to the ominous consequences of such an attack. However, we regret to note that terrorists have professed a desire to obtain such dangerous weapons. In view of that, we commend Ambassador Motoc and the entire 1540 Committee for taking the necessary measures to consider national reports and to take account of the needs of States in strengthening their domestic legislation and their law enforcement systems to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and to deny non-State actors access to such weapons.

Finally, I should note that Tanzania has itself fallen victim to a terrorist attack. We will leave no stone unturned in denying terrorists the breeding grounds and means they need to operate effectively, through the strict implementation of all United Nations resolutions against terrorism.

Mr. Rostow (United States of America): Let me begin by joining those who have thanked the Chairmen for their presentations. I also wish to thank them, the staffs of the Committees and the Secretariat for their hard work and their dedication to the struggle against terrorism. Without them, the Security Council would

be hard pressed to shoulder with any degree of effectiveness its responsibilities with regard to terrorism.

We meet in the shadows of London, Madrid, Bali, Bombay, Mombasa, Taba, Tel Aviv, Beslan, Baghdad, Riyadh and Istanbul — not an exhaustive list since 11 September 2001, but one long enough to show the persistence of terrorism and the worldwide reach of terrorists. The list does not begin to scrape the surface of the subject. Libraries are full of scholarly works on what terrorism is and on what makes terrorists do what they do. The important point is the one highlighted by the Secretary-General in March of this year: "Groups use terrorist tactics because they think those tactics are effective" (press release SG/SM/9757). Indeed. What we need to do as an international community is not to give in — never to give in — to terrorism, full stop.

Some time ago, a former official of the United Nations and noted expert on terrorism told the Counter-Terrorism Committee that the United Nations could contribute to the war on terrorism by monitoring State compliance with Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and by holding States accountable for compliance. That is what we in this Chamber can do to help those on the front line of protecting our respective citizens and fighting terrorists.

In three and a half years, how has the Counter-Terrorism Committee done? It has engaged in an ongoing dialogue with Member States without precedent in United Nations history. It has put counter-terrorism on the agenda of more than 60 regional, subregional and international organizations and has encouraged them to help their members meet their responsibilities to implement resolution 1373 (2001). It has helped launch a coordinated effort to provide technical assistance to States desiring to meet their counter-terrorist responsibilities but lacking the capacity to do so. Those are not trivial accomplishments. Weakness in worldwide counter-terrorism capacity gives terrorists the opportunity and the space to plot and carry out terrorist activities.

What about the effort to sanction individuals and entities affiliated with Al-Qaida or the Taliban? The 1267 Committee designations require Member States to freeze the assets and ban the travel of those on the list and to forbid arms sales to them. Under the travel ban, for example, States now must have the 1267 watch list at airports; experts in counter-terrorism believe that that step deters terrorists from conventional air travel. The 1267 Committee's work has led to the freezing or seizing of more than $100 million that might have been available to Al-Qaida or the Taliban.

The emergence of a more proactive and open dialogue among Member States and the 1267 Committee — as evidenced by the increased number of briefings provided to Committee members by representatives of Member States — is a welcome development that should be encouraged. The draft resolution now under consideration by Council experts supports increased dialogue between States and the Committee to strengthen Member States' implementation of the sanctions measures. The draft resolution calls on States to implement the Financial Action Task Force's 40 recommendations and nine special recommendations on terrorist financing as part of the effort to freeze the assets of those on the Committee's consolidated list.

What of the efforts to make more difficult the proliferation of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons? The 1540 Committee has overcome its early problems and is deeply engaged in a dialogue with Member States about how they are implementing the resolution and about what more can or should be done. And, of course, the three committees are beginning to work together in a more coordinated fashion.

While that record is one of accomplishment, we all have to acknowledge that the United Nations can do more to fight terrorism. Let me highlight three areas.

First, we must accept the fact that, by itself, counter-terrorism activity has an important value. Effective counter-terrorism imposes burdens on the easy movement of people, goods and services, and those burdens are the fault of terrorists, not of counter-terrorism. If one could secure ports, boundaries, et cetera, easily without having an impact on ordinary life, if one could improve security without causing inconvenience, then we would be able to fulfil Sun Zi's aphorism about war: the greatest victory involves no casualties. We must not undermine sound, lawful counter-terrorism measures with specious arguments about their collateral impact.

Secondly, we really must make counter-terrorism the top priority; it is not enough to pay lip service to it. Everyone in this Chamber knows that making counter-terrorism the top priority is an unpleasant necessity, but they know it is a necessity.

Thirdly, there remains resistance to outlawing terrorism in all circumstances. States and would-be States have to decide: are they going to take seriously the call to put an end to terrorism? Are they going to drain the swamp in which terrorists swim by arresting and prosecuting anyone who commits a terrorist act or supports it? Are they going to do so even if it seems to impugn a cause with which they agree? Or are they going to weaken the counter-terrorism front because of some real or imagined potential to create a policy inconsistency with regard to other national priorities? The upcoming informal consultations on the long-stalled comprehensive convention on international terrorism provides all United Nations Members with an opportunity to turn their collective back on terrorism once and for all.

If we are not unanimous and united in that fighting terrorism is a top priority and that bearing the costs and overcoming practical and political obstacles are our shared burden, then we all shall face a much longer struggle to protect our citizens against terrorism.

Given its responsibility to maintain international peace and security, the Security Council appropriately should be at the center of the multilateral counter-terrorism effort. To a great extent, the Council's effectiveness depends on its committees being a coherent and unified counter-terrorism instrument. Over the past few years, the Council repeatedly has called on its counter-terrorism related committees and their respective staff bodies to coordinate, cooperate and collaborate. These calls have yet to result in significant action and change in operations. Much more needs to be done. The Council will reiterate this call today with our support. In the end, if the committees and expert groups do not work more closely together than they do at present, the Council may need to act by consolidating the three expert groups into a single unit.

Mr. Baali (Algeria) (*spoke in French*): For the second time, Ambassadors Mayoral, Løj and Motoc have addressed the Security Council at the same meeting, to report to it on their activities and efforts as the heads of their respective Committees. I wish to congratulate them most sincerely for their efforts and their excellent briefings.

This debate could not be more timely. Although terrorism has been weakened and attacked on all fronts, this vile beast continues to strike with unbearable brutality, as we witness daily the mangled bodies of dozens of Iraqi civilians or the attacks that have thrown the United Kingdom capital into mourning. In fact, faced with the relentless attacks by terrorist groups on civilian populations, we need to tighten our ranks further, strengthen our cooperation in all areas of the anti-terrorism campaign, redouble our vigilance and ensure that our legislation on political asylum will no longer be abused for criminal purposes.

Moreover, I wish to say that my delegation shares the view expressed by Ambassador Mayoral regarding the three distinct components of Al-Qaida and agrees that it is important for the Al-Qaida/Taliban Committee to focus its efforts on the third category, terrorists who have never left their countries but who are linked to Al-Qaida because they are inspired by the same ideology as it is. We therefore would like the Security Council to broaden the scope of the concept associated with Al-Qaida in the draft resolution now under consideration so that the sanctions regime can be better adapted to keep pace with the terrorist threat.

We agree with Ambassador Mayoral that briefings for Member States and other institutions by the Committee are extremely useful, and we would like more such briefings to be organized. We congratulate Ambassador Mayoral on his first visit to selected countries, a visit in which my delegation played an active part. We encourage greater use of this effective instrument in order to ensure the implementation of sanctions, to understand the concerns of States in this regard and to strengthen dialogue with them at the political level.

Moreover, we congratulate Mr. Richard Barrett and the Monitoring Team, as well as the Secretariat members, for the assistance they provide to the Committee. The Monitoring Team's submission of its third report and the quality of that report are a sign of the team's professionalism. We support the Committee's future activities to further strengthen the sanctions regime and thus to create an environment hostile to the threat of Al-Qaida.

My delegation supports the Counter-Terrorism Committee's (CTC) sixteenth programme of work, which covers the period from 1 July to 30 September 2005. We welcome the dialogue that the CTC and its Chairman and Executive Director have established with Member States, and we encourage them to persevere in these efforts. Strengthening the

methodology for identifying States' needs in the area of technical assistance is also to be encouraged.

We welcome the fact that the CTC, through the Executive Directorate, has carried out three additional visits, in accordance with resolution 1535 (2004). We would like to see a road map prepared for future visits, although we do understand the present difficulties of the CTC — namely, that the Executive Directorate is not fully staffed nor fully operational.

The question of delays in the submission of reports by Member States is an ongoing concern that must be resolved by dialogue, so that Member States comply with their obligations in accordance with resolution 1373 (2001). We support the CTC and its Chairman in the future work to be done by this body, and we encourage them to continue to strengthen the dialogue with both Member States and international and regional organizations.

Considerable efforts carried out by Member States through the submission of national reports, in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 1540 (2004), reflect the full interest of the international community to face collectively the threat posed by the acquisition of weapons of mass destruction by non-State actors. My delegation welcomes the fact that 118 Member States have complied with the provisions of resolution 1540 (2004), which we adopted just over a year ago. We hope that countries that have not yet submitted their reports will do so as soon as possible in order to allow the Committee to respect the April 2006 deadline set for it so that a comprehensive situation report on the implementation of that resolution can be submitted to the Council.

With this in mind, it would be appropriate for the Committee to establish at this point a suitable framework, enabling it to provide assistance to States so requesting assistance in the implementation of actions set forth in resolution 1540 (2004) in the best possible conditions.

Finally, my delegation supports the presidential statement to be made at the end of this meeting.

Mr. Poirier (France) (*spoke in French*): The Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom has spoken on behalf of the European Union Presidency. France fully associates itself with that statement. Nevertheless, I would like to add a few brief comments.

Like those of previous speakers, our thoughts naturally turn to the victims of the attacks in London on 7 July and in Kusadasi, Turkey, on 16 July, as well as the attacks that are hitting the Middle East, particularly in Baghdad, each week.

The activities of the three committees, as described today by their Chairs, reflect our chosen approach to counter-terrorism action within the United Nations framework. France is extremely committed to that multilateral approach. We are also aware that progress is necessary to enhance the effectiveness of this collective effort.

First, cooperation among the three committees on issues of common interest within their respective mandates continues to be the priority. Such cooperation already exists; it needs to continue. Whenever possible, they need to ensure that they exchange information, avoid overlap and seek synergies. The draft presidential statement that you, Sir, will read out at the end of this discussion, is geared to that effort.

Secondly, I would like to make some comments with respect to each of the three committees.

We understand that the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) will finally be operational in September. That will be an important step, because the CTED has an essential role to play in the Committee's work. In that context, we commend Ambassador Løj on her central role in the action of the CTC and the CTED.

The CTC has many avenues for action, of which I shall cite two. The first concerns good practices in the area of financing and monitoring terrorist financing. We believe that it is essential to endorse as soon as possible the special recommendations and the interpretive notes of the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) for the fight against terrorism, as well as the Forty Recommendations on money-laundering. We hope that all members of the Committee be able to endorse those recommendations.

The second avenue of action that we wish to mention today has already been brought up by Ambassador Løj in her statement, and that is technical assistance to States that require it in order to complete their reports and effectively fight terrorism. We encourage regional organizations and States with the appropriate resources to contribute to that effort.

With respect to the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions Committee, the sanctions regime has been greatly enhanced since the adoption of resolution 1267 (1999) in order to adapt it to the evolution of the menace. That work needs to be continued, and negotiations on a new resolution have begun. We hope that the text will be adopted before the end of the month. That would permit the further enhancement and strengthening of existing sanctions — travel bans, the freezing of assets and arms embargoes — and of lists of targeted individuals and entities. We thank the Committee's Monitoring Team, which has made a critical contribution to the action and the thinking of the Committee.

In the negotiations under way on a new resolution, which I have just mentioned, France is closely following three key issues: the effectiveness of existing sanctions; respect for the right of defence and procedural guarantees, which, we believe, are an important part of the sanction regime's effectiveness; and support for good practices in the financial area, in particular those of the FATF.

Finally, with respect to the 1540 Committee, we are very satisfied with the work done and the quick analysis of national reports. However, 74 countries have not yet submitted their reports. France therefore associates itself with other Council members that have expressed their concern at that delay. Finally, I welcome the recruitment of the new experts to help the Committee in its task.

Mr. Mayoral (Argentina) (*spoke in Spanish*): I now wish to speak briefly in my national capacity.

As is well known, Argentina is firmly committed to the fight against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, because terrorism is a serious threat to international peace and security and violates the most basic human right — the right to life — and constitutes an attack on civilized coexistence.

Incidents such as those that took place in London strengthen our determination. Without listing all cities that have been victims of terrorism, as the representative of the United States has done, we wish to recall that 11 years ago, in 1994, Buenos Aires too was a victim of international terrorism, when the AMIA building was bombed, killing some 100 individuals. Thus, my country is committed to combating terrorism, as is reflected in its decision to chair the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions Committee for the second time.

My country believes that the United Nations, because of its universal character, has the central role to play in the struggle, because terrorism is international. To that end, it is important to coordinate efforts and develop international mechanisms to combat terrorism. We, the Member States, must support the work of our Organization through strict compliance with all Security Council resolutions, not only by applying the sanctions against Al-Qaida and the Taliban but also through all instruments adopted by the Council, such as through the timely submission of all national reports to the Committees so that, among other things, they can evaluate shortcomings and requirements for technical assistance.

Argentina believes that the international community's fight against terrorism should be carried out in full respect of the Charter of the United Nations, international law, human rights and humanitarian law. The fight against terrorism must also must be conducted in complete transparency and ensure due process and respect for individual rights, thereby not only ensuring its legitimacy and effectiveness but also securing the active cooperation of all Member States. Argentina will continue to strive for the full respect of those principles.

Finally, with respect to the format of today's meeting, we support the joint presentation of the reports of the three Committee Chairmen. We believe that this practice strengthens cooperation and collaboration among the Committees while further clarifying their mandates and their respective areas of competence. We believe and hope that this format should be maintained. We also believe in the importance of the solid coordination of the three groups of experts of the three Committees.

Mr. Baja (Philippines): We, too, are grateful to the Chairs of the three Committees dealing with implementation of counter-terrorism measures for their comprehensive briefings. They were both timely and relevant. The recent bombings in London and other terrorist acts in other parts of the world are grim reminders of the need to further strengthen and improve our efforts to counter terrorism.

My delegations welcomes the 1267 Committee's consideration of a new resolution that will further improve the sanctions regime. As Ambassador Mayoral

said, we are no doubt faced with a threat from Al-Qaida that is radically different from the threat posed when this sanctions regime was first imposed. It is therefore important that the new resolution will not only strengthen a number of the elements in the sanctions regime but also address common concerns expressed by Member States over the implementation of the sanctions measures.

My delegation notes new developments in the work of the Committee, such as increased briefings from Member States on their experiences in implementation of the sanctions regime, which could provide further inputs and complement the assessments and the visits of the Chair and the monitoring team. A broader engagement with relevant organizations such as Interpol will also be very useful in the Committee's work.

With respect to the 1540 Committee, my delegation supports Ambassador Motoc's call for Member States that have not yet done so to submit their first national reports. We endorse his view that non-possession of, or non-capacity to develop, biological, chemical or nuclear weapons does not make it unnecessary or irrelevant for States to prepare a national report. The reality is that non-State actors could take advantage of any weak link; thus the submission of such reports to the Committee is imperative, as they aid the Committee in determining how to support a country in implementing the provisions of the resolution.

My delegation commends the progress achieved by the Committee, assisted by its experts, in examining the national reports. We welcome in particular the attention being given by the Committee to the issue of capacity-building and technical assistance. We encourage Member States to be proactive, whether in offering assistance or in availing themselves of it, as appropriate, so that they can fully implement the provisions of the resolution and achieve its objective of contributing to international stability.

On the 1373 Committee, my delegation looks forward to coordination among the three Committees on the matter of addressing issues related to reporting. The innovative approaches developed by such coordination will contribute to strengthening and expanding the process of dialogue with States, alleviate the incipient "reporting fatigue" of Member States, and thereby enhance the effectiveness of the implementation of each Committee's mandate.

We endorse the focus of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, as mentioned by the Chairperson, namely dialogue with States, identification of those States that need technical assistance, and the development of a set of best practices.

My delegation further welcomes the continuing progress towards making the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) fully operational.

Other areas that could be addressed in a coordinated manner by the three Committees are capacity-building and technical assistance. We note that the 1267 Committee has no mandate as concerns technical assistance, which the 1373 and 1540 Committees do. A coordinated approach, where appropriate, could be more focused and resource-effective.

We are gratified to note that Governments are evolving innovative strategies to deal with the new methods used and the new skills acquired by terrorists. We take note in particular of the statement made by Prime Minister Blair on the need for a political response to terrorism that includes looking at the symptoms and causes of terrorism and countering not only terrorist methods but also terrorist views.

Indeed, the greatest restraint on human behaviour may not be a police officer or a border guard but adherence to a noble ideal.

One of the most effective operational ways to counter terrorist threats is the establishment of communications procedures for the exchange of information. In South-East Asia, for example, the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia signed a trilateral memorandum of understanding three months after 11 September. The memorandum has since been adhered to by Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Viet Nam and is being implemented even at the local level of government. Such an exchange-of-information network provides a greater opportunity to cut off terrorists' access to funds and bomb-making materials.

Finally, let me also take this opportunity to update the Council and other Member States on the progress made by the working group established under resolution 1566 (2004), which is under the chairmanship of the Philippines. I would like to say at the outset that this update represents the personal views

and impressions of the chairmanship and does not in any way restrict or reflect the position of other members of the working group.

Under the mandate of the Security Council, the working group commenced its activities in January this year. To fulfil its Council mandate, the working group agreed to conduct its work in two phases. The first phase was that of information-gathering, during which the group sought the widest range of views and suggestions from established experts on the areas under the group's mandate. The second phase will involve the consideration by the working group of its recommendations to the Council.

The working group conducted its information-gathering phase during the first six months of the year. We have had excellent briefings from top-notch experts and practitioners from both within and outside the United Nations. The working group has benefited greatly from the views and suggestions of those who have graciously briefed it and also from those who have briefed the other committees, particularly the CTC.

For the rest of the year, the working group will focus on preparing its recommendations to the Council. The working group has agreed to consider three broad issues: namely, practical measures, as mentioned in paragraph 9 of the resolution; the possible scope of those practical measures; and the question of victims, under paragraph 10 of the resolution.

The working group has agreed to conduct its work in complete transparency vis-à-vis the wider membership of the United Nations. In that vein, the chairmanship will hold, from time to time, consultations with the wider United Nations membership to hear States' views and suggestions on the issues under consideration by the working group. The chairmanship had initially organized such a meeting on 27 April, and, with the agreement of the members of the working group, will convene a similar meeting with United Nations Members in the next few weeks.

Mr. Konuzin (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): Let me at the outset, Mr. President, thank you for having convened today's meeting, during which we are continuing the positive practice of holding joint briefings by the chairpersons of the three counter-terrorist Committees of the Security Council.

I should like also to express my gratitude to Ambassador César Mayoral, Ambassador Ellen Løj and Ambassador Mihnea Motoc for their substantive briefings and in general for their tireless efforts at the head of their respective committees.

We note with sadness that, despite the international efforts made, the victims of terrorism in recent days have included dozens of people in London, in Turkey and in the Middle East, including in Iraq. My own compatriots in Russia have died at the hands of terrorists.

With respect to the subject of today's meeting, the Russian delegation views the work of the 1267 Committee as one of the key areas of the counter-terrorism activities of the Council. We fully support the efforts of the Committee and of its Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team to enhance the sanctions regime against the Taliban and Al-Qaida, and we support negotiations on a new resolution of the Security Council that is meant to ensure that that task is effectively addressed.

In the context of the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC), I should like to highlight the ongoing efforts of the Danish Chairperson and of all members of the Committee to develop new forms of dialogue with States by carrying out country visits, enhancing reporting mechanisms, incorporating new methods for assessing States' technical assistance needs, and disseminating best practices in order to fully and effectively implement resolution 1373 (2001).

The CTC is successfully developing its cooperation with international and regional organizations. Indeed, expert assistance is particularly important when carrying out country visits.

At the same time, there is growing concern at the fact that the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) is not yet fully staffed, which clearly is having a negative impact on the CTC's ability successfully to address the tasks facing it, including its plans to intensify its counter-terrorism work. We believe that this problem will be dealt with in the near term and that, at subsequent meetings of the Council on the work of the three Committees, there will no longer be a need to take up this issue.

Worth noting are the positive dynamics in the work of the 1540 Committee, benefiting from the active support of the expert team.

We share the view that, at this stage, the priority task is to clear the backlog of States that have not submitted their national reports. We hope that the appeal made by the Group of Eight at Gleneagles for countries that have not yet done so to immediately submit their reports on the measures they have undertaken at the national level in the area of non-proliferation and on their contributions to international cooperation will be heeded.

Increasing the Committee's practical interaction with international and regional organizations in the area of non-proliferation and export controls continues to be a pressing matter. We support efforts aimed at expanding the geographical scope and the formats of such cooperation.

Given the long-term nature of the tasks set out in resolution 1540 (2004), we believe that it would be appropriate to extend the Committee's mandate beyond April 2006.

In conclusion, I would like to touch upon one of today's most pressing issues on the counter-terrorism agenda of the United Nations. Informal consultations will be held next week on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism. Russia supports those efforts, which are aimed at quickly reaching consensus on this most important of legal instruments in the area of counter-terrorism. We hope that other delegations share our view, and that they will be prepared for constructive dialogue to successfully complete that work and promptly adopt the text of the convention.

The President: I shall now make a statement in my capacity as the representative of Greece.

At the outset, I would like to thank the three Committee Chairmen for their most informative briefings.

Greece fully associates itself with the statement made by the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom on behalf of the European Union. I would, however, like to add the following points.

This debate is taking place only a short time after the deadly terrorist attacks in London, which we condemn and which deeply shocked the international community. Once more, it was proved that terrorism continues to pose a serious threat to the most fundamental value of mankind, that is, the right to life, freedom and security of person. The London terrorist attacks, as well as last year's attacks in Madrid and those elsewhere, whether in the past or more recently, show that terrorism is likely to be with us for a considerable period of time. No country is immune. We should therefore accelerate and better coordinate our efforts to eradicate it, both domestically and internationally.

Acts of terrorism are not justifiable on any grounds, be they political, philosophical, religious or other. Those committing such acts should be brought to justice. However, our fight against terrorism must not ignore human rights. Counter-terrorism measures and the protection of human rights are not mutually exclusive.

The United Nations has played, and continues to play, an important role in the fight against terrorism by addressing the challenge as one of the most serious threats to our peace and security, as well as by addressing the challenge of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The work and ongoing efforts of the three committees have considerably enhanced the role of the United Nations in dealing with those threats. I would like to express our appreciation to the Chairmen of the committees for their commitment and dedication in carrying out their difficult tasks.

With respect to the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions Committee, I would like to express my sincere thanks to its Chairman, Ambassador César Mayoral. The visits he carried out to Member States were useful and facilitated a better understanding of their obligations under resolution 1267 (1999) and subsequent résolutions. We also thank the Committee's Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team for its work to improve the effectiveness of the sanctions regime. We look forward to its third report and anticipate new recommendations on necessary improvements in that field. The visits of the Team to Member States and to regional organizations have enhanced the Committee's interaction with those States and organizations. The result will be better implementation of sanctions.

Likewise, we look forward to the renewal of resolution 1526 (2004), with a view to improving the

sanctions regime. The principle of due process must be taken into consideration. In our view, sanctions can serve their objective only if their implementation is consistent with the protection of human rights. We also think that more transparent and clearer criteria and requirements should be established for the listing and de-listing of individuals and entities. Individuals and entities included in the Committee's list should be informed about the measures imposed on them, listing and de-listing procedures and the humanitarian exemptions provided for in resolution 1452 (2002). Lastly, we think that a process for reviewing the cases of individuals and entities claiming to have been wrongfully placed or retained on the Committee's list should be envisaged as a means of improving the sanctions regime and enhancing its legitimacy.

On the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC), I would like to extend my warm congratulations to Ambassador Ellen Margrethe Løj for her intensive efforts to strengthen the Committee's dialogue with Member States. I would also very much like to thank the Committee's Executive Directorate for its work, as well as Ambassador Rupérez and his staff. The recent visits to Kenya, Albania and Thailand by members of the Executive Directorate constitute useful tools to assist States to implement resolution 1373 (2001) in an open manner and to identify the technical assistance needs of States. However, what is really important is to have proper follow-up for those visits. We were pleased to hear from the Committee's Chair that that issue is a high priority for the CTC. Furthermore, we fully support the efforts of the Committee to continue its dialogue with Member States that have not submitted their reports, in order to encourage them to report in a timely manner. Finally, we believe that the Committee should develop a set of best practices to provide guidance for the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) on the basis of best practices developed in the context of other international, regional and subregional organizations.

I also wish to express our appreciation to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), Ambassador Motoc, for his efforts to advance the work of the Committee. We were pleased to hear that, with the support of the group of experts, the Committee has already examined more than 50 reports. It is a matter of concern, though, that 75 States are late in submitting their national reports. Such delays do not facilitate the fulfilment of the Committee's mandate. They also do not allow the Security Council to assess the progress achieved by the States concerned in their implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). We urge those States to meet their obligation under the resolution and to submit their reports without further delay.

We welcome the adoption by the General Assembly earlier this year of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, which addresses another serious aspect of the terrorist threat. We urge all Member States to sign the Convention at the summit to be held in September. Likewise, we support the early conclusion of the negotiations on a comprehensive convention on terrorism, as well as its adoption during the sixtieth session of the General Assembly.

I now resume my functions as President of the Security Council.

There are still a number of speakers remaining on my list for this meeting. I intend, with the concurrence of the members of the Council, to suspend the meeting until 3 p.m.

The meeting was suspended at 1.15 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.5229 (Resumption 1)

Security Council

Sixtieth year

Provisional

5229th meeting

Wednesday, 20 July 2005, 3 p.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Vassilakis	(Greece)
Members:	Algeria	Mr. El Hadj Ali
	Argentina	Mr. Mayoral
	Benin	Mr. Babadoudou
	Brazil	Mr. Baumbach
	China	Mr. Li Song
	Denmark	Ms. Løj
	France	Mr. Cruau
	Japan	Mr. Omura
	Philippines	Ms. Taguiang
	Romania	Mr. Motoc
	Russian Federation	Mr. Smirnov
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Ms. Purdy
	United Republic of Tanzania	Mr. Panga
	United States of America	Mr. Rostow

Agenda

Briefings by Chairman of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-154A.

05-43188 (E)

The meeting was suspended at 1.15 p.m. and resumed at 3.05 p.m.

The President: I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Pakistan, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the discussion without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Akram (Pakistan) took the seat reserved for him at the side of the Council Chamber.

The President: I wish to remind all speakers to limit their statements to no more than five minutes in order to enable the Council to carry out its work expeditiously. Delegations with lengthy statements are kindly requested to circulate their texts in writing and to deliver a condensed version when speaking in the Chamber.

As a measure to optimize the use of our time, I will not individually invite speakers to take seats at the table or to resume their seats at the side of the Chamber. When a speaker is taking the floor, the Conference Officer will seat the next speaker on the list at the table. I thank representatives for their understanding and cooperation.

The next speaker inscribed on my list is the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, to whom I give the floor.

Mr. Mekdad (Syrian Arab Republic) (*spoke in Arabic*): I congratulate you, Sir, and your friendly country on your accession to the presidency of the Council for this month. We are fully confident that your efforts and leadership of our work will enhance the role of the Council in maintaining international peace and security.

At the outset, my delegation reiterates that the people and Government of Syria condemn the bloody act of terrorism that took place in London, the murder of the Egyptian ambassador to Iraq and the acts of terrorism that took the lives of Turkish citizens in Istanbul. We extend our sincerest condolences to those countries and reconfirm our resolve to strengthen international cooperation in putting an end to the scourge of terrorism.

We also thank Ambassador Løj, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001); Mr. Mayoral, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999); and Mr. Motoc, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004). We thank them for their work in skilfully steering the deliberations of the aforementioned Committees.

Syria has suffered the scourge of terrorism for decades. In recent weeks, Syrian security forces have uncovered a terrorist network seeking to carry out acts of terrorism inside and outside our country. In their pursuit of those terrorist elements in the border region between Syria and Lebanon, Syrian security forces have detained 37 members of those networks who sought to terrorize our citizens and to destabilize our country. A number of those security forces were killed.

Syria was one of the first countries to call for stronger international counter-terrorism efforts. Since 1985 Syria has called for an international conference under United Nations auspices to define terrorism, to mount an effective international counter-terrorism strategy and to distinguish terrorism from the legitimate struggle of all peoples under occupation to liberate themselves, which is a right guaranteed by international norms and instruments. After terrorist attacks were carried out against a number of countries to destabilize them, Syria once again called for an international counter-terrorism strategy and reiterated its offer to cooperate with all relevant international and regional organizations to enhance the security and legal frameworks for putting an end to international terrorism.

My delegation has noted with great interest that the Counter-Terrorism Committee has always been guided by the principles of cooperation, transparency and equal treatment in its revitalization efforts. In mid-April Syria presented its fourth report to the Committee in accordance with paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001). The report was issued as an official document of the Security Council (*S/2005/265, annex*).

Moreover, my delegation welcomes the cooperation and coordination between the Committee

and its Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED). We hope that the CTED will be able to begin its work as soon as possible. That will promote capacity-building and the provision of technical assistance to help States prepare their reports in a timely manner and in a way that will promote the implementation of Security Council resolutions.

In order to strengthen the legal framework for combating terrorism, the President of the Syrian Arab Republic issued legislative decree 33, dated 1 May 2005, concerning money-laundering and the financing of terrorism. Syria also acceded to international counter-terrorism conventions in accordance with decree 5, dated 3 April 2005. Thus Syria has acceded to most international conventions aimed at combating terrorism, and we are considering ratifying the remaining ones.

The Syrian delegation believes that the successful visit to several Member States by Mr. Cesar Mayoral, Chairman of the 1267 Committee, and members of the Committee last May represents an important effort to strengthen international cooperation and understanding in the area of counter-terrorism. In some of the meetings that took place, Syrian officials shared their views with Mr. Mayoral on enhancing cooperation in the area of counter-terrorism, focusing in particular on Syria's experience in the 1980s as a result of the terrorist acts that threatened our national security. Mr. Mayoral's delegation also noted that a number of measures have been undertaken by Syrian authorities in various areas, particularly with regard to our borders with neighbouring countries.

We have always stressed the importance of international cooperation in combating terrorism. Syria has reached agreements in that regard with a number of countries, including members of the Security Council. That has greatly contributed to the sharing of security information in order to combat this international threat. Thus it is important to recognize Syria's efforts in this area.

Everyone agrees that weapons of mass destruction and their proliferation continue to pose a threat to international peace and security. The best way to eliminate that threat is to totally eradicate such weapons. That requires a concerted international effort, led by the United Nations and utilizing the multilateral disarmament machinery.

Syria shares the international community's concern that weapons of mass destruction may get into the hands of terrorists and non-State actors. Therefore, we have submitted our national report on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). We hope that the Security Council will consider the draft resolution that we submitted before our membership ended in 2003 aimed at establishing a zone free of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, given that such weapons pose an imminent threat to international peace and security in the region and throughout the world.

Syria stresses its full cooperation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee through the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and through my Government's submission of our national reports to the Committee. We emphasize that the Committee must serve as a supplement to, and not a substitute for, multilateral and international conventions related to weapons control and the elimination of weapons.

Here, I would like to point out that coordination and cooperation among the three Security Council committees are very important in the struggle against terrorism. Such coordination and cooperation enhance the work of the Committees and lighten the burden on countries, particularly with regard to the writing of reports, since there is less duplication of information as a result. We are fully confident that the Security Council will take the necessary measures in this area.

The fight against international terrorism concerns all of the world's countries, because terrorism is a scourge that we all face; it crosses all cultures, borders and civilizations. I reiterate once again that Syria, as always, will be at the forefront of the international fight against this threat.

The President: I thank the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic for the kind words he addressed to me and to my country.

I now call on the representative of Israel.

Mr. Gillerman (Israel): We would like to congratulate you, Sir, on the convening of this very important meeting. We would also like to commend you for the leadership you have demonstrated during your presidency of the Security Council for the month of July. The fight against terrorism is unquestionably one of the most urgent issues facing the world today.

Your guidance in today's discussion will no doubt prove invaluable.

In that context, I have noted with great interest the news that Syria has arrested some terrorists. I have also noted that country's very selective mode of arresting terrorists, on the one hand, and its wholehearted harbouring of them, on the other.

Israel would like to take this opportunity to extend its deep and sincere condolences to the people of the United Kingdom in the wake of the terrorist attacks that recently struck it so brutally. Our sympathies and prayers are with the families of the victims of that attack, and we wish a speedy recovery to the survivors.

Israel itself is mourning the death of six of its own citizens this week. They were murdered in two terrorist attacks, both of which took place within a week of the tragedies in London. Israel is, unfortunately, keenly aware of the devastating effects of terrorism, and we once again reaffirm our resolve to work together with others to confront terrorists and their sponsors, wherever they may be. I would also like to express our condolences to the people of Turkey, Egypt, Iraq and India, all of whom have experienced the evils of terror in recent weeks. Those terrorist attacks prove once again that terrorism knows no boundaries and is indeed a global problem. Further, those attacks again bring to the fore the urgent need for the international community to reinvigorate its fight against terrorism.

Israel believes that the unprecedented increase in global cooperation and information-sharing that has occurred since the attacks of 11 September 2001 is a very important step in the fight against terrorism and a reason for great encouragement. On a daily basis, the global community makes advances in enhancing security and in combating terrorism.

In that context, Israel views the meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, the Al-Qaida Committee and the 1540 Committee as important steps in the global fight against terrorism. Israel commends the Committees for the valuable progress they have made in increasing the capacity of States that are willing but unable to confront terrorism. We hope that similar progress will be made with States that are able but unwilling to confront terrorism.

Despite clear calls from the Security Council detailing the responsibility of States to refrain from supporting and to act against terrorists, there are still States that view terrorism as a way of waging their own wars by proxy. The same resolve we direct against the terrorists must be directed against those States that allow terrorists to act unencumbered and unimpeded.

There is an urgent need to address those factors that create the atmosphere in which terrorists can hide, recruit new members and operate. In particular, issues of radicalization, glorification of martyrdom and incitement require urgent and concerted attention, especially in the light of the increasingly common phenomena of suicide terrorism and of terrorists who have been born and raised in the very societies in which they commit their atrocities.

Israel is pleased to note the growing, indeed almost universal, recognition that the fight against terrorism cannot be held hostage to any so-called root causes. There can be no attempt to justify or excuse the use of terrorism. Israel commends the Secretary-General for his forthright rejection of such attempts in his counter-terrorism strategy.

On that subject, Israel is concerned that, although the "Millennium + 5" draft outcome document rejects terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, it also lists factors that may contribute to terrorism. That list compromises the efficacy of the draft outcome document's statements on terror.

Israel also attaches the utmost importance to effective counter-terrorism legislation and multilateral legal instruments. We are actively sharing our experiences in this sphere. Israel is party to nine counter-terrorism conventions, and we are working to join others. We also support the goal of concluding a comprehensive convention on terrorism during the sixtieth session of the General Assembly. The goal of concluding such a convention should not, however, be seen as an end in and of itself, but rather as a means to an effective international counter-terrorism strategy. Accordingly, as much as we wish to see the comprehensive convention concluded at the earliest opportunity, it should not come at the cost of diluting the principles that stand to make it an effective tool in the fight against terrorism.

Israel is pleased to note that multilateral forums — most recently the Group of Eight summit and the meeting of the group of five European interior

ministers — continue to close the gaps in the international counter-terrorism web. As a result of these and similar efforts, international terrorist networks are suffering significant setbacks. Nevertheless, terrorist groups are quick to exploit any gaps that might appear in international resolve and cooperation.

One such gap is the increasing tendency to seek contact with leaders of terrorist organizations on the ground that they are political and/or democratically elected leaders. Let there be no mistake about it: terrorist organizations are cunningly adopting a new modus operandi of political involvement in a cynical attempt to exploit the wave of democratization that has begun to sweep through the Middle East. Developments in democratization should not be confused with the democratization of terrorists themselves. Indeed, contact with them, at any level, signals international acceptance of their continued militarization and encourages, rather than fights, terrorism.

The rightful placement of terrorist groups such as Hamas and Hizbollah on lists of outlawed international terrorist organizations is key to ostracizing their representatives and inhibiting their activities. Any other approach, especially political co-option in the naive hope that terrorists will eventually rectify their ways, not only sends the wrong message about international counter-terrorism efforts, but also endangers governing authorities and the lives of innocents around the world.

Having fought terrorism since our inception, Israel is well aware of the dangers and transnational ramifications that are inherent in it. We therefore appreciate international efforts to contain and combat terrorism. Israel has been an active supporter of the Counter-Terrorism Committee. We encourage the Committee to cover fully the wide scope of its mandate, including confronting the dangers of incitement. Furthermore, Israel looks forward to extending our support to the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, and in that context is pleased to note that an Israeli counter- terrorism expert has been included in its work.

The President: I thank the representative of Israel for his kind words addressed to me. I now give the floor to the representative of Peru.

Mr. De Rivero (Peru) (*spoke in Spanish*): I wish, on behalf of the Government and the people of Peru, to express our condolences and sentiments of solidarity with the Government and the people of the United Kingdom and with the relatives of the victims of the terrorist attacks carried out in London on 7 July. Those criminal acts deserve our deepest condemnation.

Peru, which fought and defeated terrorism from 1980 to 1992, strongly and unequivocally condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever it takes place and whoever commits it. No ideological, political or religious reason can be used as justification by those who carry out, cooperate in or finance terrorist acts.

We all know that terrorism cannot be fought in a conventional war. There is no territory or theatre of operations, because the actors are clandestine. It is an asymmetric struggle, and the way to wage it is, therefore, different.

Based on our own successful fight against terrorism, Peru can state that only through a holistic approach is it possible to combat this scourge effectively. An appropriate legal framework is needed, along with operational capacity in the areas of security and, above all, in intelligence. In that holistic struggle, it is necessary to respect human rights and international law. Firmness in the fight against terrorism also requires firmness in the preservation of civil liberties. The democratic State cannot put itself on the same level with terrorists; that is our experience.

Another long-term element that must be considered as part of this holistic approach is the elimination of the social exclusion and the frustration that lie behind terrorist alienation. Within the framework of this holistic strategy, it is essential that we build structures of inter-State cooperation. We are therefore grateful for the briefings by the Chairs of the three Security Council committees and appreciate the convening of today's open meeting. I will now make some brief comments on the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999).

Peru appreciates the efforts made by the Chair of the CTC to give priority attention to the Committee's role as a facilitator of technical assistance both between States and between them and international organizations.

We also highlight the importance of the CTC's continued coordination and cooperation with other organs of the United Nations and with international, regional and subregional organizations in order to focus efforts and avoid duplication. In that context, we should respect the different spheres of competence of the various forums and be mindful that recommendations coming from diverse organizations belonging to diverse forums, spheres of competence and situations cannot automatically become universal norms.

With regard to the reports, there are some points that could be considered to improve their effectiveness.

First, delays in the submission of reports, as the Chair of the Committee stated, are to a large extent due to reporting fatigue and lack of capacity. In other words, countries that lack financial resources, experience in the fight against terrorism or the required personnel or that have not been able to adopt specific national legislation must be able to receive the assistance they require to adequately implement resolution 1373 (2001) and to report on those activities to the CTC. It is those deficiencies that must guide the CTC's cooperation with States. That is important, because the Committee's main task is to ensure that States have the necessary tools to fight terrorism.

In addition, in connection with reporting fatigue, it would be useful to agree on a timetable for the submission of reports, as set out in paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001). That would help the Committee itself and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) to duly process the content of the more than 600 reports that have been submitted by States during more than three years.

A second element is following up the reports. It is necessary that the responses and the courses of action taken by the CTC in each case be based on a meticulous and rigorous analysis of the reports and that the specific situation and experience of each country be taken into account. Otherwise, the Committee risks adopting a mistaken approach with respect to the reality in some countries, affecting its contribution to States' mechanisms to fight terrorism.

Thus Peru agrees that the CTED, the technical support organ of the CTC, must complete its team as soon as possible and become fully operational. In addition, the resulting team must include strategists in the fight against terrorism and specialists in the various areas of that fight. Legal professionals are needed, as are intelligence and police experts with experience in the field. The members of the team, as has been said, must come from different geographic regions and legal traditions and, most important, must have practical experience in fighting terrorism.

It is necessary to overcome the limitations I have mentioned in order to optimize the use of the report system and the specialized activities of the CTED. That way, the CTC will best be able to carry out the mandate entrusted to it by the Security Council.

Before concluding, I would like briefly to refer to the work of the 1267 Committee. Peru hopes that the efforts to incorporate the information from the lists into the Interpol database can be completed as soon as possible. That would exploit the capacity of that main organism for international police cooperation and facilitate the tasks of national authorities.

The adequate functioning of the list system, including the listing and the delisting of individual and entities, continues to require the utmost attention. Respect for due process and the rights of those included on the lists must be considered at all times.

The President: I now give the floor to the representative of Cuba.

Mr. Gala López (Cuba) (*spoke in Spanish*): My delegation wishes to join the expressions of solidarity with the British people following the bombing attack in London's public transportation system, which caused the death of dozens of individuals and hundreds of casualties. As expressed by the President of my country in a message to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the people of Cuba, which has been the victim of terrorism for more than four decades, shares the pain of the British people and condemns that unjustifiable attack.

Under the increasing international pressure generated by the accusation by Cuba, and following more than a month of complicit silence, on 17 May 2005 the United States immigration authorities were obliged to detain the terrorist of Cuban origin Luis Faustino Clemente Posada Carriles, who had entered the country illegally and had applied for political asylum on the basis of the services rendered to the United States during more than 40 years as a member of the Central Intelligence Agency and the United States armed forces.

Most appropriately, the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela requested the extradition of the terrorist Posada Carriles so that he could be submitted to trial in that South American country in connection with a heinous crime committed against a civilian aircraft belonging to Cubana de Aviación, which caused the loss of 73 lives and for which he was on trial when, in 1985, he escaped from the Venezuelan prison where he was being held.

My country takes this opportunity to reaffirm its belief that the only right action the United States Government could take is to agree to the extradition requested by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela that, in addition to being in compliance with the relevant norms of international law, is covered by a treaty in force between the two countries.

If the United States Government wants to lend a sliver of credibility to its proclaimed war on terror, it has no option but to proceed to the extradition of a criminal who, it is worth recalling, was the author of numerous other terrorist acts, including a bombing campaign in Havana hotels in 1997 that caused the death of the Italian tourist Fabio Di Celmo. In addition, he has planned numerous attempts on the life of President Fidel Castro, for one of which he was sentenced in Panama, where he was fraudulently pardoned on 26 August 2004 by former President Mireya Moscoso.

Resolution 1373 (2001), adopted by the Council based on a proposal by the United States, clearly establishes, in invoking Chapter VII of the Charter, the obligation of all States to ensure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in supporting terrorist acts is brought to justice, as well as to take effective measures to prevent the movement of terrorists and deny refuge not only to terrorists but also to those who protect them.

We hope that the case of the terrorist Luis Posada Carriles does not end up like that of Orlando Bosch Avila and of other self-confessed terrorists of Cuban origin - responsible for plunging dozens of Cuban families into mourning - who live freely in the United States and stroll along the streets of Miami.

We would consider it to be a very serious matter if Washington were to decide to give asylum to Posada Carriles or if it were to adduce sophistic legal arguments to allow him to stay in the United States. That would constitute an affront to all the victims of terrorism throughout the whole world and to their relatives, including the people of the United States themselves.

My Government urges the international community to demand that the United States Government fulfil its obligation to extradite Luis Posada Carriles to Venezuela.

My Government reiterates once again its request to the Counter-Terrorism Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) to proceed to an assessment of the information submitted by my country, in, among others, documents S/2002/15, S/2004/753 and S/2005/341, in the hope that its work will help put an end to the impunity enjoyed on the territory of the United States by those who have carried out, and continue to carry out, terrorist actions against Cuba.

Cuba reaffirms its position of principle against all terrorist acts, methods and practices, in all their forms and manifestations, wherever, whenever, by and against whomever they are committed, including those in which States are directly or indirectly involved.

The President: The next speaker inscribed on my list is the representative of Liechtenstein, to whom I give the floor.

Mr. Wenaweser (Liechtenstein): At the outset, I would like to convey our profound sympathy and compassion to all those affected by the horrendous terrorist attacks that occurred recently in London. We strongly condemn all acts of terrorism, irrespective of their motivation, wherever and by whomever committed. We also reaffirm our commitment to contribute, to the fullest extent, to the international fight against terrorism in all its aspects, including through full cooperation with the relevant United Nations bodies.

We thank the Chairpersons of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC), the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions Committee, and the 1540 Committee for their briefings. We appreciate their contribution and the hard work of the experts who are supporting their tasks. Increased coordination between the counter-terrorism Committees of the Security Council can greatly enhance the effectiveness of United Nations activities in this area. In the light of the upcoming renewal of Security Council resolution 1526 (2004), my comments

this afternoon will be focussed on the strengthening of the sanctions regime against Al-Qaida and the Taliban.

The Council is currently engaged in informal consultations on a draft resolution to be adopted, as we understand it, by the end of July, which contains a number of suggested improvements to the current sanctions regime based in part on the valuable work of the Monitoring Team. We generally support measures such as better cooperation with Interpol, streamlining of the working methods of the 1267 sanctions Committee and its Monitoring Team, and improved sanctions monitoring. At the same time, we remain convinced that due process, human rights and humanitarian concerns must be addressed in an equally urgent and thorough manner, and that doing so will in effect enhance the implementation, and thus the effectiveness, of targeted sanctions.

As reported by the Monitoring Team, a number of countries have been facing legal challenges in national and international courts against specific measures of sanctions implementation. Some of those have yet to be decided. We wish to mention a recent judgement handed down on 30 June 2005 by the European Court of Human Rights in the case of *Bosphorus Airways v. Ireland*. While the Court concluded that, in this specific case, the applicant's right to protection of property had not been violated, it also issued an important caveat: State actions taken in compliance with international legal obligations, such as international sanctions regimes, are justified only as long as the relevant organization protects fundamental human rights, with respect both to their substance and to the mechanisms controlling their observance. Otherwise, there can be circumstances in which the European Convention would have to prevail over other legal obligations.

That judgement makes it clear that there is a real possibility that a State party to the European Convention might find itself in a situation where, by implementing its obligations flowing from a United Nations sanctions regime, it is found in violation of rights protected by the Convention. Such a scenario must be avoided; it can if the Security Council intensifies its work on enhancing the fairness and transparency of procedures for listing, delisting and humanitarian exemptions, and on improving the access of individual applicants to the decision-making body. In that respect, informing individuals and entities of their listing and granting them the possibility of directly submitting to the Committee a request for delisting or humanitarian exemption would be a step in the right direction. In the long run, any regime depriving individuals of their rights will have to include an appeals process involving a judicial or otherwise independent organ in order to comply with international due-process standards.

We recall in that context that we requested in February this year that the list of Member States having made notifications regarding humanitarian exemptions in accordance with resolution 1452 (2002) be made accessible to all Member States, as a straightforward means of improving transparency. That request is still pending before the sanctions Committee.

Current discussions on an improved sanctions regime also deal with the question of which individuals, groups, undertakings and entities can be considered as being "associated with" Al-Qaida for the purpose of listings. This is a welcome exercise that takes into account the structure of Al-Qaida and the nature of the threat it poses. The draft currently under discussion, however, entails the danger that such a definition could become too sweeping and include third parties that have some relationship to those targeted and that might factually contribute, in an inadvertent manner, to terrorist activities. In accordance with our legal understanding, knowledge and intent are indispensable mental elements of criminal liability and must thus be included in such a definition. This would also be in line with international legal standards such as those established by the Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, to which we are a party.

I wish finally to express our hope that Council members will give non-members of the Council ample opportunities, both formal and informal, to contribute to the strengthening of the Council's counter-terrorism measures in all relevant contexts. The implementation of the Council's counter-terrorism measures will undoubtedly be more successful if all States concerned are involved in their design.

In that spirit, I thank the President very much for convening today's meeting.

The President: The next speaker inscribed on my list is the representative of Switzerland, to whom I give the floor.

Mr. Maurer (Switzerland): The most recent acts of terrorism in London, as well as in other parts of the world, which wasted the lives of dozens of innocent civilians and caused injuries to many more, have once again confirmed that the threat of terrorism is far from over. Switzerland condemns all forms of terrorism and terrorist acts and supports the fight against terrorism by all means in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, including human rights and international humanitarian law.

The efforts of the Security Council are an important part of the global fight against terrorism. Switzerland has fully complied with the Council's counter-terrorism resolutions and has closely cooperated with its Counter-Terrorism Committee and its sanctions committees, and will continue to do so in the future. Combating terrorism is the concern of all States, and it is therefore essential for the Council to have regular exchanges on its strategies and decisions with all members of the United Nations. I therefore express my appreciation to the Chairmen of the three committees for today's briefings.

The Council is currently reviewing the measures imposed by earlier resolutions concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities. In my statement I will focus on the 1267 Committee and share some concerns that Switzerland has with regard to the effectiveness of targeted sanctions as applied today. Security Council targeted financial and travel sanctions against individuals can be a useful instrument in the international community's efforts to enforce implementation of Security Council decisions. Since 1998, the common efforts of Switzerland, Germany, Sweden and others in the Interlaken, Bonn-Berlin and Stockholm processes have contributed to the further development and refinement of that instrument.

In recent years, however, the scope of targeted sanctions has been extended considerably to loosely defined categories of individuals and entities rather than specific groups of persons. Furthermore, while targeted sanctions are intended to be preventive in nature, they are punitive in their effects, and the rights of individuals under domestic and international law are severely affected. In particular, the application of measures against individuals without any possibility of review or appeal has the real potential to violate individual due process rights guaranteed by relevant instruments of international law. Not surprisingly, the second report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team, of February 2005 (S/2005/83, annex), mentioned a number of legal challenges in national and international courts against specific sanctions implementation measures.

The conflict between Security Council resolutions and international human rights law is both harmful and unnecessary. It violates the integrity of the system of international law and it undermines the legitimacy of the Council's action in general. Switzerland shares the concern of others that, as a result, it will severely compromise the effectiveness of the Council's anti-terrorism strategy. At the same time, we are convinced that new mechanisms must, and can, be developed that would avoid incompatibility between obligations under international human rights law and Security Council sanctions. In that regard, we welcome the statements and suggestions made by Greece, Denmark and, just a minute ago, Liechtenstein.

We believe that an effective regime of Security Council targeted financial and travel sanctions against individuals and entities needs; first, to apply strict and transparent factual and evidentiary requirements with respect to the listing of individuals and groups; secondly, to guarantee the timely notification of targeted individuals and entities upon their inclusion in a sanctions list; thirdly, to limit the duration of sanctions and their punitive effects; and fourthly, to provide for the right to appeal against the inclusion of individuals and entities in a sanctions list, as well as for binding arbitration by a body of impartial and independent experts.

We recognize that recent sanctions regimes provide improved safeguards with regard to the rights of listed individuals or entities, and we suggest that the relevant counter-terrorism and sanctions committees update older sanctions regimes according to the newer, better standards.

With respect to further improvements in the efficiency of targeted sanctions, Switzerland would welcome opportunities for discussion with the members of the 1267 Committee.

In the ongoing debate on the reform of the Security Council, Switzerland has suggested, among other things, that the Council consider on a case-by-case basis the possibility of including Member States not currently on the Council but with strong interest and expertise in the topic to participate in the work of one or more of the subsidiary bodies. We believe that

improving the listing and de-listing procedures would be an excellent opportunity to start such a practice. We suggest that the Council establish a working group with members of the 1267 Committee, other interested Member States and relevant experts from the Secretariat with a mandate to come up with suggestions on how to improve the effectiveness of the Committee's listing and de-listing procedures, in particular by avoiding incompatibility between obligations under international human rights law and Security Council sanctions.

The President: The next speaker inscribed on my list is the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, to whom I give the floor.

Mr. Toro Jiménez (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (*spoke in Spanish*): On behalf of the Government and the people of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, we would like to reiterate our heartfelt and categorical repudiation of the terrorist acts recently committed against the British people.

Deliberating and taking decisions on courses of action in areas such as terrorism, which is a crucial item on the agenda of the Organization and of the Council, is fraught with danger and the risk of distortion, unless the guiding principle used to shed light on the truth and reach conclusions is one that provides a historical and holistic perspective. The principle to which I am referring is no other than the historical reconstruction of the process of the emergence of terrorism at the international level and the various stages and manifestations of that phenomenon. By revisiting the past in an examination of history we can assess the period between the last two violent confrontations of the twentieth century — the so-called world wars — in order to identify the emergence of capitalistic, despotic, racist, bellicose, totalitarian, imperialistic and, to varying degrees, genocidal States that were led by demented ideologies in an attempt to not only further subjugate their own peoples but also those on the world's periphery who had been subsumed in the colonial backwardness of ignorance, political and social exclusion and poverty and who were deprived of the most basic human rights. I am referring to the tragic European and Asian misadventures in National Socialism, fascism and falangism, as well as the Japanese militarism hearkening back to theocracy.

At that stage of the imperialist phase of international monopolistic capitalism, and faced with the uncontainable surge of peoples supported by the actions of the first socialist State, which emerged in 1917, some capitalist States reacted by employing the systematic political use of extreme terror in order to ensure collective obedience through intimidation and threats to life and liberty, thereby suppressing all dissent against their genocidal plans and actions. Nevertheless, at the time of the Second World War, the democratic traditions and movements that had emerged in Europe, the North American continent and other places led to a marshalling of forces that was able to thwart that criminal and suicidal movement against the Western world driven by extremist political agents of monopolistic capitalism.

In the post-war period, from 1945 until the end of the twentieth century, in the context of the historic conflict between capitalism and the principal socialist States and of the bipolar confrontation within the so-called Western world, peoples continued to advance in their key role of breaking the chains of oppression in the process of decolonization. In order to stop the popular advance, the international capitalistic monopoly needed additional financing. To that end, it pursued its exploitation and pillaging of the peoples and resources of marginalized countries in order to test and develop new conventional and unconventional weapons of mass destruction, strengthening its capacities especially in the area of nuclear, chemical and bacteriological weapons targeting the socialist States in particular — its most visible adversaries — as a means of dissuasion, and using dependent countries as the testing grounds of its new weapons of extermination.

The collapse of the Soviet Union and the world socialist system opened a brief period of uncertainty in the military and economic policies of the West. The expansion was brought to a temporary halt by the unexpected downfall of the champions of popular rule, in line with the prediction of history's coming to an end made by Francis Fukuyama, who foresaw that the expansionists would soon identify as new ideological enemies those countries with the most important fossil fuel resources. This was followed by wars against Afghanistan, Iraq and the fragile Palestinian State that was just emerging, as well as the supposed threat posed by Iran, all covered under the so-called clash of civilizations proclaimed by Professor Samuel

Huntington. That scenario also explains the attempted coups against the democratic revolutionary Government of our President Hugo Chávez Frías in April and December 2002.

Given the profound and deepening gulf between the States of the G7 — and later, the G8 — and the sufferings of the majority of the peoples of the South, the victims have declared themselves in overt rebellion against and defiance of the lead role of the transnational capitalist monopoly. In the 60 years since the defeat of European Nazism, the Government of the United States and its imperialist allies have assumed the military, political ideological role once played by that movement in the destruction of the marginalized world and are now threatening the very foundations of the biosphere with annihilation. That contemporary manifestation of repression is State terrorism. It has a long history of malfeasance throughout the planet to which the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America can bear witness. The firm resolve of peoples to stand up to the latest version of State terrorism practised by the United States and its allies is evident in the decision to use apocalyptic weaponry against the courageous resistance of peoples who have bravely sacrificed many lives in repelling the invaders and their abuses.

The United States Senate recently authorized the renewed production of miniature or tactical nuclear weapons, which are said to be more efficiently deadly than the genocidal experiments in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, at a time when popular revolt seems not only to be irreversible, but also to be threatening the two-pronged power of the almighty Pentagon to wage war on two fronts simultaneously. That decision of the United States Senate runs counter to the commitments undertaken by the United States in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to the very spirit and meaning of that convention, and, obviously, to the United Nations Charter.

As a nation and a people, Venezuelans jointly condemn and repudiate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as a lethal political instrument for the extermination and intimidation of innocent peoples throughout the world, including by those who justify their actions as collateral effects of foreign invasion. At the same time, we recognize the activities of those who fight foreign invasion and lay down their lives for freedom, self-determination, sovereignty and respect for human rights. In such cases, it is necessary to distinguish clearly between terrorist acts and the legitimate defence of fundamental freedoms under threat.

My delegation also believes that another powerful and effective aspect of terrorism is clearly the ongoing system of lies and manipulation on the part of the national and international media at the service of imperialism, seeking to conceal the truth from peoples who are fighting for self-determination and to forge their destiny in a new world.

We ourselves have suffered from terrorism, such as the criminal assassination by car-bomb of Danilo Anderson, a high-ranking civil servant in the Venezuelan Justice Department, on 18 November 2004. The perpetrators of that crime are being dealt with by the judicial authorities. My delegation also recalls the case, already brought to the attention of this Council, of the action taken by my Government with respect to Luis Posada Carriles, a Venezuelan terrorist who has sought asylum in the United States. That co-author of the bombing of a Cuban aircraft in 1976, in which innocent youth were killed, is a criminal notorious throughout the world and a fugitive from Venezuelan justice. We expect a speedy, positive response from the United States authorities to our request so that justice can be done. In any case, the safe haven being given to the fugitive is in clear violation of paragraph 2 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has scrupulously fulfilled Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004). In that regard, we have also submitted the relevant mandatory reports in a timely fashion.

Finally, we reiterate what we have said before other United Nations bodies: The solution to terrorism is not more terrorism — in other words, war. We need to dismantle that perverse and criminal mechanism through the constructive, peaceful and just deployment of political means focused on the self-determination of peoples.

The President: The next speaker on my list is the representative of India, to whom I give the floor.

Mr. Sen (India): We thank you, Sir, for scheduling this timely meeting on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts. We also thank the Chairpersons of the Security Council Committees established pursuant to

resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004) for their detailed briefings.

The recent horrific attacks in London and elsewhere in the world have shown the emergence of terrorism with a renewed vigour. The seriousness and consistency of the threat posed by terrorism to civilized society everywhere, irrespective of political affiliation or ideology, have been brought home once again. Most important, for our purposes, they have reinforced the urgent need for a global consensus on dealing with terrorism.

To us in India, terrorism is not a new phenomenon. We have suffered from that cross-border-inspired scourge for nearly 25 years. Over 60,000 Indian citizens have lost their lives as a direct result of terrorism. India has consistently maintained that terrorism constitutes one of the most serious threats to peace and security, and that it recognizes no border or boundary, observes no code of conduct or constraints of religion, and is not restrained by humanism or the bounds of civility.

Fifteen days ago, on 5 July, five heavily armed militants, believed to be affiliated with the Lashkar-e-Toiba, stormed the complex in Ayodhya with the intention of spreading mayhem and terror at a sensitive site. Fortunately, owing to the effective intervention of the security forces deployed at the complex, the militants were neutralized at a relatively low cost. However, the intention of the perpetrators of that act of terrorism and their external sponsors, whose involvement has since been proven, was far more sinister — it was to incite the flames of communal conflagration and violence and damage India's secular and democratic fabric.

In his address to the United States Congress yesterday, Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh stated that

> "open societies like ours are today threatened more than ever before by the rise of terrorism... Terrorism exploits the freedom our open societies provide to destroy our freedoms. We must fight terrorism wherever it exists, because terrorism anywhere threatens democracy everywhere."

It is important for States to be held accountable for any lack of compliance with their international obligations, in particular those under international legal instruments and under Security Council resolutions on terrorism. The international community must no longer tolerate resort to double standards, partial cooperation for political ends, tactical ploys, incitement, fundamentalist training and indoctrination and support for or sponsorship of terrorism. If global action against terrorism is to succeed, States that profess cooperation in the war against terrorism while maintaining intact the infrastructure of terrorism should no longer be allowed to act with impunity.

The Counter-Terrorism Committee, assisted by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, must continue to play a major role in assisting States, through capacity-building and by ensuring that they have the means to fight terrorism.

We would like to compliment the 1267 Committee on its work. Unfortunately, we have witnessed in recent months a resurgence of the Al-Qaida and Taliban organizations in Afghanistan, as manifested by the increase in attacks against civilians and security forces along the southern and south-eastern borders of that country. The re-emergence of large, well-armed groups of Al-Qaida and Taliban is a matter of concern for the international community. We believe that the two words "moderate" and "Taliban" are incompatible: an oxymoron. Any attempt to reach out to former Taliban elements should totally exclude individuals or entities on the 1267 Committee's consolidated list. Any action to the contrary would constitute a clear violation of Chapter-VII resolutions.

The recent listing of Lashkar-E-Tayyiba by the 1267 Committee in its consolidated list of entities, in the Al-Qaida section, has been an important step forward in the fight against terrorism. Lashkar-E-Tayyiba enjoys a clearly defined agenda, hierarchy, sources of funding, protection and infrastructure. Its philosophy has been to merge jihadi education with modern curricula not only to train young students in religious principles but also to make them adept in science and technology, a philosophy that can be put to devastating effect to serve the needs of terrorism. We would encourage the 1267 Committee to continue to be active in securing the listing of more individuals and entities.

India welcomed the adoption of resolution 1566 (2004), which, in our view, represented a logical extension of existing multilateral cooperation on counter-terrorism. In our view, the United Nations should not leave unchallenged or unaddressed claims

of moral, political or diplomatic support for terrorism. We hope that the working group established pursuant to resolution 1566 (2004) will earnestly set out to reach an understanding on the ways and means to move the Council's counter-terrorism agenda forward.

The work of the 1540 Committee remains critical. Recent revelations regarding the extensive international network that facilitated the proliferation of nuclear equipment and technology have amply brought home to us all the danger of the acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and the means of their delivery. We urge the 1540 Committee to be more proactive and to move quickly to minimize, through international cooperation and co-option, the possibility of any further proliferation that could pose a threat to international peace and security.

As we have conveyed to the 1540 Committee in our national report, India's track record on nuclear non-proliferation is impeccable. Even though we have witnessed unchecked proliferation in our own neighbourhood, which has affected our security concerns, India has not only adhered to the existing regulatory framework governing controls over weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, but has proceeded to strengthen those controls. The Weapons of Mass Destruction and Their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Act, adopted on 6 June 2005, provides overarching and integrated legislation prohibiting unlawful activities in relation to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems. In that context, the Prime Minister of India stated yesterday,

> "India, as a responsible nuclear Power, is fully conscious of the immense responsibility that has come with the possession of advanced technology, both civilian and strategic. We have never been, and will never be, a source of proliferation of sensitive technologies".

While the Security Council has been justifiably proactive on the counter-terrorism agenda, we believe that it is equally important for the general membership of the United Nations to engage on that critical issue. The Secretary-General has called for a comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy to be adopted by heads of State or Government at the High-Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly to be held in September. The international community must endorse his call. My delegation strongly supports the conclusion, during the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, of a comprehensive convention on international terrorism.

There can be no justification for terrorism in any of its forms or manifestations. Those who resort to terror often clothe it in the garb of real or imaginary grievances. No grievance can justify the resort to terror. At the same time, the fight against terror has to be fought within the boundaries laid down by our obligations regarding the rule of law and fundamental freedoms. The Government of India, recognizing the need to continue fighting terror without impinging on essential individual freedoms and liberties, has repealed the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

It is a curious and striking paradox that both Mr. Samuel Huntingdon and certain terrorist groups such as Al-Qaida speak of a clash of civilizations. Our experience is that that paradigm is profoundly mistaken. India's capacity to deal with the vicissitudes of terrorism can be traced also to its ability to accommodate different cultural and civilizational traditions over time. Historically, the Bhakti and Sufi movements absorbed the best values of thought and civilization. Those traditions have contributed to the emergence of a secular democracy that in itself serves as a bulwark against societal tensions. Not a single Indian has been identified or detained for terrorist acts perpetrated by Al-Qaida or the Taliban anywhere in the world. As the largest democracy, with secularism at its heart, and as the second largest Islamic society in the world, we feel that we do not need any lessons from either the Western democracies or the self-appointed guardians of Islam.

The deliberate weakening of secular democratic forces in many parts of the world over decades left the fundamentalists as the only vehicle for popular dissent. It is only through a strengthening of those secular democratic forces that we can hope to gain the upper hand in the battle against terrorism. At the same time, the brutal anti-humanism, the absence of any realistic programme for social regeneration and, above all, the extreme reactionary vision of the terrorists can only strengthen the reaction.

It is our sincere hope that the United Nations will move forward the international agenda on counter-terrorism through the actions of the General Assembly and the Security Council. The intricate linkages and networks that unite terror groups can be challenged

only through concerted international cooperation and efforts. The international community can no longer accept double standards or half measures on the part of States in the fight against terrorism. The United Nations will have to ensure that all States are committed equally to the fight against terrorism.

The President: The next speaker is the representative of Australia, to whom I give the floor.

Mr. Dauth (Australia): I begin by thanking you, Mr. President, for bringing this meeting together today and also by thanking my friends the Chairs of the 1267, 1373 and 1540 Committees for their briefings. Let me demonstrate my thanks in a practical way: by being brief and to the point.

Although, of course, I welcome the opportunity to speak at the Council's second joint public meeting on this item, as I did at the first such meeting in April, I am very sorry to have to do so against the background of the appalling terrorist attacks in London. Together with all other right-thinking people around the globe, Australians were shocked at the savagery of those attacks. But in equal measure we are full of admiration for the courage and determination displayed by the British Government and the British people.

At such a time, and particularly when the United Nations system is under unprecedented scrutiny, it is appropriate that forums such as this one pay regard to how United Nations bodies and mechanisms are working to meet the challenge of terrorism. Australia welcomes the efforts to date, in particular by the 1267 Committee, to engage more closely with Member States, including through undertaking regional travel. We also appreciated the opportunity earlier this month for our Ambassador for Counter-Terrorism to brief the 1267 Committee on our counter-terrorism cooperation and capacity-building efforts in the Asia-Pacific region. I note with a certain measure of pride that we are only the fourth Member State to take advantage of that opportunity to date. We recall the emphasis placed on capacity-building by the Secretary-General in his comprehensive strategy to fight terrorism, and we encourage all three committees to intensify their engagement with Member States and regional bodies.

The time has come, however, for us to acknowledge that more can, and indeed must, be done. I personally recall — as I know others in this Chamber do — that, in the terrible days immediately after 11 September 2001, we were seized with a grim determination that saw the United Nations become the focal point of the international response. That momentum now risks being lost. Indeed, I would argue that in many respects, that momentum has indeed been lost. We note, for example, that the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate was due to become fully operational by January 2005. It is vital that that important body be able to finalize its staffing arrangements and give full effect to its mandate at the earliest possible date. Similarly, we would stress the need to give effect to calls for better coordination within the United Nations system on counter-terrorism matters generally.

Much work is already being done by States, including my own, at the bilateral and regional levels. That is all to the good. But effective coordination by the United Nations can help ensure that assistance is directed to where it is most needed and to where it will make the most difference. The committees can be assured of Australia's continued support for those efforts.

The President: The next speaker inscribed on my list is the representative of New Zealand, to whom I give the floor.

Ms. Banks (New Zealand): I would like to take the opportunity to express once again to the Government of the United Kingdom, and to the families and friends of those who were killed or injured, New Zealand's heartfelt sympathy regarding the tragic events of 7 July. Those unconscionable terrorist attacks in London have underlined once more the critical importance of the international campaign against terrorism.

I would like to thank the Chairs of the three committees for their briefings this morning and for their important ongoing efforts. The London attacks were a bleak reminder of the vital importance of that work.

One of the key messages in today's briefings has been the need for cooperation, including regional cooperation. In that regard, I am pleased to advise members that New Zealand hosted an inaugural meeting of the Pacific Working Group on Counter-Terrorism in Auckland in June as part of a broader initiative to strengthen our region's legal and operational counter-terrorism infrastructure. The meeting also provided a forum in which to discuss the challenges faced by Pacific island countries in

complying with international counter-terrorism obligations — a point I would like to come back to later.

With respect to today's debate, I would like to make three brief comments.

First, there is now a common view within the Security Council and the wider United Nations membership that, having established the tools for fighting terrorism through the Security Council, we need to continually review their effectiveness. New Zealand welcomes those efforts. We note that the Al-Qaida/Taliban sanctions Committee is currently looking at a new draft resolution to sharpen and update sanctions against Al-Qaida and the Taliban. Given the Chapter VII obligations that would flow from such a resolution, we believe it is important that interested Member States be kept informed of, and be given the opportunity to provide input into, the Council's deliberations. While we do not wish to slow down the work of the Committee, earlier outreach from the Council will help us all when it comes to implementation.

Secondly, we remain of the view that in order to improve the effectiveness and legitimacy of its counter-terrorism efforts, the Security Council must ensure that recognized basic standards of due process are met. We share the concerns raised by others with respect to the current designation process — particularly with respect to listing and de-listing — and we urge the Council to consider amendments to the sanctions regime under resolution 1267 (1999) to meet those concerns. There are a number of proposals in circulation, including those outlined today by the representatives of Denmark, Greece, Liechtenstein and Switzerland. We ask that the Council give them serious consideration.

Thirdly, we would once again draw the Council's attention to the problems faced by small Member States, including in our own region, in meeting the Council's considerable reporting requirements. In the recent Pacific counter-terrorism meeting that I just mentioned, it was made very clear that the reality of limited resources and the challenge of competing policy priorities mean that compliance with counter-terrorism remains a significant challenge for many Pacific countries. We welcome the Council's efforts to address that issue. We very much hope that the enhanced cooperation among the three committees and expert groups now under way will include some discussion of the consolidation of reporting requirements for small Member States. There is a lot that can be done by way of technical assistance, and we urge the Council to take the initiative on that.

For its part, New Zealand, together with Australia and the Pacific Islands Forum secretariat, has established a programme to help Pacific countries to put in place effective counter-terrorism legislation and to plan for counter-terrorism contingencies. New Zealand has offered to work with interested Pacific partners to help them meet their reporting requirements and obligations to the Security Council. We will continue to work closely with Australia and our Pacific partners in those endeavours.

In closing, I would like to take the opportunity to underscore once again our unequivocal support for international counter-terrorism efforts and for the work of the Security Council. We must continue to work together to defeat terrorism, ensuring at the same time that respect for the rule of law and fundamental human rights remains the cornerstone of our efforts.

The President: The next speaker inscribed on my list is the representative of Pakistan, to whom I give the floor.

Mr. Akram (Pakistan): Permit me at the outset to extend the warm felicitations of the Pakistan delegation to you, Mr. President, and to the delegation of Greece on the skilful manner in which you are guiding the work of the Council. I would also like to express our appreciation to Ambassador De La Sablière and to the French delegation. Ambassador De La Sablière conducted his presidency with his usual grace, understanding and competence.

I would like to join other delegations in thanking the Chairmen of the three committees, who briefed the Council today. We support the efforts of all three committees in promoting greater transparency and dialogue with Member States concerning their respective areas of activity. We hope that the committees will also ensure the involvement and participation of the general membership of the United Nations in their work.

On this occasion, I would like to offer some specific comments on the reports we have received.

First, with regard to the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC), we have noted the first country

visits. We welcome the emphasis — particularly that of the CTC — on providing counter-terrorism-related technical assistance to States.

Concerning the Al-Qaida/Taliban sanctions Committee, we have noted the views of its Chairman about focusing on the new and growing generation of supporters who may never have left their countries of residence but have embraced the core elements of the Al-Qaida message. Moreover, we believe that sufficient evidence and identifying particulars must accompany new and existing designations on the Committee's consolidated list. That is necessary in order to meet judicial and legal requirements and to allow national authorities to defend legal challenges to the freezing of assets and other sanctions measures.

With regard to the 1540 Committee, that Committee — whose mandate is to prevent the acquisition of weapons of mass destruction by non-State actors, including terrorists — needs to focus on the absence of a definition of various terms used in the resolution and on the absence of agreed international standards to assess actions taken by Member States to implement the resolution.

The Committee also has to take into account the different levels of State capacity to implement its provisions and it should ensure that it does not infringe upon, erode the authority of, or duplicate or complicate the work of, established treaty regimes and international bodies established under those treaties. In this context, it will need to be taken into account that different States have a differentiated nature of obligations under various treaties.

I would like to join others in expressing our solidarity with the victims and families of those affected by the recent terrorist incidents, particularly in the United Kingdom and Turkey. We strongly condemn such acts of terrorism and reiterate our commitment to fighting this menace in all its forms and manifestations.

Geography and history have combined to present Pakistan with a special challenge and a special role in combating terrorism. Pakistan's commitment to the campaign against terrorism is clear, present, tangible and visible. In a recent statement at the National Youth Convention, President Musharraf made an appeal to "stand up and launch a jihad against extremism for peace, brotherhood and unity in the society and for knowledge, progress and poverty alleviation".

Pakistan has taken a number of measures on the domestic front. For the first time in history, our armed forces have carried out operations, which are still ongoing, in the tribal areas along our border with Afghanistan. We have suffered over 300 casualties in this operation. We have been able to capture or extradite more than 600 terrorists, including key operatives of Al-Qaida.

Our Government is also engaged in an active and direct campaign to eradicate extremism from our society. This campaign includes the reform of the madrasas, a small fraction of which have preached extremist views. President Musharraf will outline our comprehensive efforts tomorrow in an address to the nation.

The challenge of terrorism is both local and global. All those who have confronted terrorism and extremism know full well that success requires sustained and comprehensive efforts encompassing police action, societal change and creation of economic opportunities, as well as the solution of the political issues that provide the excuse and the oxygen to the terrorists.

The responsibilities to address terrorism are, therefore, both national and international. The role of the United Nations is central and critical. Within the United Nations, and especially through the three committees reporting today, the international community is creating an international legal regime to counter all forms of terrorism. The deliberate killing or maiming of civilians is not justifiable. All acts of terrorism are condemnable, whether committed by an individual, a non-State actor or a State.

The absence of a definition of terrorism should not hold up action against terrorism. At the same time, we must ensure that counter-terrorism measures have built-in safeguards to uphold human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right of peoples to self-determination.

There can be no basis for the exclusion of State terrorism — that is, the perpetration of sustained violence and brutality by a State against an innocent civilian population whose only crime is its opposition to foreign occupation and the denial of the right of self-determination. Nor can States conducting such terrorist acts against civilian populations be allowed to portray the resistance of these legitimate movements as terrorism.

We support the Secretary-General's initiative for a comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy. This must include measures to address the root of the problem. Root causes do not justify terrorism, but they do explain it, and understanding of the causes of terrorism is essential to success against this gruesome and unacceptable tactic. Those causes include political and economic injustices, festering international disputes, foreign occupation and denial of the right of peoples to self-determination, as well as cultural, social, economic and political marginalization and alienation. The essence of President Musharraf's strategy for enlightened moderation is to address the causes of terrorism at the root and comprehensively eradicate them.

The perception of being disadvantaged, and even deliberately discriminated against as a faith and culture, results in frictions within societies and often strengthens extremist forces. Promoting greater mutual understanding among all religions and cultures is now a political and a moral imperative. We must remove misunderstandings, especially deliberately propagated negative caricatures such as some we have heard here today. It is important to emphasize that the vast majority of the adherents of any faith, especially Islam, are peaceful, tolerant, honest, just and caring people. Those who hold militant views are a small minority, and those who act on those militant views are an even smaller minority.

The central message of all religions is almost identical. The root causes of friction between cultures and civilizations are not primarily religious differences, but mostly competing political and economic interests and misunderstandings. We therefore strongly support the Spanish initiative for an alliance of civilizations.

The President: I thank the representative of Pakistan for his kind words addressed to me and to the Greek delegation.

There are no more speakers inscribed on my list.

I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Security Council:

> "The Security Council reaffirms that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to peace and security and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable regardless of their motivations, whenever and by whomsoever committed. The Security Council reiterates its condemnation of the Al-Qaida network and other terrorist groups for ongoing and multiple criminal terrorist acts aimed at causing death and destruction of property and undermining stability. The Security Council also reaffirms that proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, as well as their means of delivery, constitutes a threat to international peace and security and recalls its grave concern about the risk posed by non-State actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery.
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> "The Security Council reiterates its call on all Member States to become parties to all 12 international conventions against terrorism and in this context draws attention to the treaty event being held in New York in September, and encourages Member States to take that opportunity also to sign the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. The Security Council calls on Member States to cooperate on an expedited basis to resolve all outstanding issues with a view to adopting the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism.
>
> "The Security Council urges all States to cooperate to bring to justice, in accordance with the principle of extradite or prosecute, the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of acts of terrorism. Recent events, as condemned by the Security Council in resolution 1611 (2005) and S/PRST/2005/29, stress the urgency and necessity of redoubling efforts to combat terrorism.
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> "The Security Council welcomes the briefings by the Chairmen of the Al Qaida/Taliban sanctions Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999), the Counter-Terrorism Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) on the work of the three Committees. The Security Council reaffirms the importance and the urgency it attaches to the implementation of the provisions of the resolutions relevant to the three Committees as well as the fulfilment of the mandates of the three Committees. The Security

Council therefore strongly encourages Member States as well as the respective Committees to redouble their efforts to seek ways to further strengthen the implementation of resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004), in accordance with the provisions of these and other relevant resolutions.

"The Security Council reaffirms its call for enhanced cooperation among the three Committees, as well as their respective groups of experts, in monitoring States' implementation of the provisions of the relevant Security Council resolutions, with due respect for their different mandates, including through enhanced information sharing, coordinated response to late submission of States' reports to the three Committees, and other issues of relevance to all the three Committees. The Security Council also invites the three Committees to continue cooperation with the working group established pursuant to resolution 1566 (2004).

"The Security Council urges Member States to redouble their efforts to implement the provisions of the resolutions relevant to the three Committees. While reaffirming that the responsibility for implementing the provisions of these resolutions rests with the States, the Security Council encourages States to seek the necessary assistance to ensure that the necessary capacity to implement the resolutions is available.

"The Security Council reiterates that relevant international, regional and subregional organizations can play a crucial role in supporting the goals of these resolutions, raising awareness of their importance, and helping their members implement them. The Security Council encourages such organizations, as or when proposed by the relevant Committee, where appropriate, to provide the necessary technical assistance. Moreover, the Security Council encourages its Counter-Terrorism Committee, Al-Qaida/Taliban Sanctions Committee, and, when appropriate, its 1540 Committee, as well as relevant organizations, to enhance cooperation with a view to identifying, promoting, and developing, as appropriate, best practices to provide clarity and guidance to States on implementation of the provisions of the relevant resolutions.

"The Security Council encourages Member States in a position to do so to make technical assistance available on a priority basis.

"The Security Council invites the three Committees to continue reporting on their activities at regular intervals and, where appropriate, in a coordinated manner."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/2005/34.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 4.45 p.m.